## **SB 60** "JACKPOT JUSTICE" LAW FOR ADF

## <u>SB60 WEAKENS CIVIL RIGHTS, WELCOMES COSTLY LAWSUITS</u>

- Senate Bill 60 opens the door to "Jackpot Justice" for national interest groups like Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) to rake in millions of Kentucky tax dollars from local governments.
- ADF is eager to sue Kentucky cities and counties with local discrimination laws Fairness Ordinances — and collect millions of Kentucky taxpayer dollars in "costs" and attorney's fees.
- All "state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and policies" could be subverted by someone asserting "religious freedom," including domestic violence laws, property laws, trespass laws, contract laws, civil rights laws, and more.
- We propose a change to SB60 that will protect long-standing anti-discrimination laws:
  - Section (4): This statue <u>does not apply to any provision or implementation of state or local</u> <u>laws, administrative regulations, or ordinances that provide for or require</u> <u>protections against discrimination</u> but applies to all <u>other</u> government action whether adopted before or after the effective date of this act. <u>With the exception</u> <u>of state or local laws, administrative regulations, or ordinances that provide for</u> <u>or require protections against discrimination, any</u> state laws enacted after the effective date of this Act are subject to this section unless this statute is explicitly excluded. This section shall not be construed to authorize any government action to burden any religious belief.

SB60 also adds such broad language that it could be used in lawsuits between private parties, forcing private litigants to prove the government's interest in enforcement of certain laws:

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Government <u>action</u> shall not substantially burden a person's freedom of religion. The right to act or refuse to act in a manner motivated by a sincerely held religious belief may not be substantially burdened unless <u>it is proven</u> [the government proves] by clear and convincing evidence that <u>the government</u> [is] has a compelling governmental interest in infringing the specific act or refusal to act and has used the least restrictive means to further that interest.

The majority of Kentucky voters oppose legislation like SB60, according to a 2024 Mason-Dixon Poll. (www.tinyurl.com/KYRFRA)

