

Kentucky can...



Give families a second chance at housing stability by making common sense changes to the eviction process



All kids deserve a safe and stable home, but the rising cost and availability of housing has made finding and staying in safe, stable housing difficult for 44% of Kentucky renters. For families with an eviction, the permanent mark it leaves on their record makes finding housing even more difficult and can force families out of their neighborhood, school district, and support systems.

To reduce the trauma, financial hardship, and housing insecurity associated with evictions, Kentucky can establish a protocol to automatically expunge evictions from a family's record once they have been eviction free for a certain amount of time, as well as seal filings that do not result in an eviction.

Evictions put kids at risk of negative health outcomes and toxic stress associated with Adverse Childhood Experiences:

- Research shows that children who had experienced evictions within the last five years were 43% more likely to be in poor health and 55% more likely to be at risk for developmental delays.
- Children younger than five make up only 9% of rental households, but represent 12% of those impacted by evictions.
- Because of the historical legacy of racially based housing policies, Black children are even more impacted with 1 in 4 Black children younger than five facing eviction every year.

Evictions disrupt every part of a family's life and once an eviction is filed, it remains on a person's record forever.

Eviction Filings per Day:

- Kentucky: 134
- Fayette County: 18.5
- Jefferson County: 57.2
- Kenton County: 7.9



Evictions are one of the few legal judgements that cannot be expunged. Any interaction with the legal system can have a negative impact on an individual's long-term economic security, which is why charges like bankruptcy, misdemeanors, and certain types of felonies can be expunged after a period of time.

Blueprint for Kentucky's Children Policy Solution:

Establish a process to automatically expunge an eviction from a family's record after they have been eviction-free for a reasonable amount of time, seal filings that do not result in an eviction, and prohibit minors from being named on eviction filings.



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