

The Wolfe County News

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C. D. LONG - EDITOR

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POINT TO PONDER

I GRIEVE FOR OUR COUNTRY



Tim Farmer is host of the popular "Tim Farmer's Country Kitchen" on KET and former longtime host of the "Sports Afield" program on KET and other media outlets. The following is from his social media page and is reprinted from a recent Facebook posting.

on this page that was negative towards the last administration. And there was plenty to talk about.

But I have seen a meanness that I have never seen before. I saw people absolutely celebrate the death of Charlie Kirk.

On all of our social media pages we have one rule: be kind. Be decent to one another.

This is my personal page. I don't care about numbers of people on this site or any others. If you can't be kind, and can't debate like a decent human being, please be gone.

We have to come together, and defeat the enemies from within and without. Search for the truth. It's out there. But it takes effort and dedication to find. Talk to those with different ideas.

That's how we move ahead.

I grieve for our country. I miss the days when decency was the backbone of our culture. Tonight I've seen absolutely disgusting statements concerning the attempt on our president's life.

I try to stay away from politics. Try to find one thing

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Representative Timmy Truett

Voters To Decide Fate Of Constitutional Amendment

Are you in favor of limiting a Governor's ability to grant pardons or commute sentences by prohibiting him or her from granting pardons or commuting sentences during the time period beginning 60 days prior to the general election at which the Governor is elected, and ending when the Governor is sworn in for that term by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?

These words will appear on the November General Election ballot for all voters in Kentucky to decide the fate of a proposed amendment to our state's constitution. This proposal was placed on the ballot after lawmakers passed Senate Bill 10 earlier this month.

The proposal did not come out of nowhere. It follows public outcry over the more than 400 pardons and commutations issued by former Governor Matt Bevin in the final days of his term. Still, controversy over pardons is nothing new in Kentucky. In 2003, then-Governor Paul E. Patton pardoned four men facing campaign finance charges tied to the 1995 governor's race, and Governor Steve Beshear later issued more than 200 pardons of his own. In fact, they go back even farther. Kentucky's early constitutions in 1792, 1799, and 1849 all allowed governors to grant pardons but did not require any public explanation. Concerns about abuse led constitutional convention delegates to add language to the current Kentucky constitution that requires governors to put their reasons in writing and make those records available for public inspection.

Let me begin by stressing that placing any amendment on the ballot is not necessarily an endorsement of it, but rather a reflection of its importance as an issue and the need for voters to weigh in directly. Similarly, this column is intended to inform, not to persuade either for or against its passage. In our republic, constitutional amendments are among the most significant questions citizens are asked to consider, and they deserve careful, thoughtful explanation rooted in context and clarity.

Kentucky is currently operating under its fourth constitution, adopted in 1891. That alone offers important perspective as the world of 1891 looked very different from the one Kentuckians live in today. There are other differences. For example, the U.S. Constitution is relatively short and broad, providing an outline of general principles and leaving many specifics to the legislative and judicial branches. Kentucky's

Constitution is much longer and far more detailed. It includes specific rules about things like taxes, education, local offices, and even procedural requirements that the federal document leaves open. That level of detail can provide clarity and guardrails, but it also means that the document can require updates over time to remain relevant and responsive to changing conditions.

It is also important to recognize that amending Kentucky's constitution is not the same as amending the United States Constitution. At the federal level, constitutional changes are rare and require an extraordinarily high threshold. In Kentucky, the process is more accessible. Proposed amendments must pass both chambers of the General Assembly, after which they are placed on the ballot for voters to decide.

This year, the Kentucky General Assembly approved such a proposal. Through Senate Bill 10, lawmakers voted to place a constitutional amendment before voters that would modify the governor's pardon powers.

Under the current constitution, the governor has broad authority to grant pardons and commute sentences. This authority is a longstanding feature of executive power, designed to serve as part of checks-and-balances, checking the power of the justice system. It preserves the ability to extend mercy in rare cases and offers a safeguard when the legal system does not fully account for all circumstances.

The proposed amendment would place a temporary limitation on that authority during the final portion of a governor's term. Specifically, it would prohibit a governor from issuing pardons during the 60 days leading up to a gubernatorial election and continuing through the inauguration of the next governor.

In November 2026, Kentucky voters will have the final say. Between now and then, there will be opportunities to review the language of the amendment, hear from various perspectives, and consider what the change might mean in practice.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181 and keep track through the Kentucky legislature's website at legislature.ky.gov..

Is It Time To Renew Your Subscription?

SAMPLE BALLOT

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, "MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED," THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS ALL PRECINCTS LISTED IN WOLFE COUNTY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 19, 2026.

| UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One) |
|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Vincent Anthony THOMPSON |
| <input type="radio"/> Amy McGRATH |
| <input type="radio"/> Dale Lewis ROMANS |
| <input type="radio"/> Charles BOOKER |
| <input type="radio"/> Pamela STEVENSON |
| <input type="radio"/> Joshua BLANTON SR. |
| <input type="radio"/> Logan FORSYTHE |

ALL PRECINCTS

| MAGISTRATE District 1 (Vote for One) |
|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Gary DUNN |
| <input type="radio"/> Timothy BAILEY |
| <input type="radio"/> Arthur VEST |

A101 Lee City #1
A105 Hazel Green #2

| MAGISTRATE District 2 (Vote for One) |
|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Michael B PERRY |
| <input type="radio"/> Gene Taylor BOOTH |
| <input type="radio"/> Steve OLIVER |

| CONSTABLE District 2 (Vote for One) |
|---|
| <input type="radio"/> John Matthew CANNON |
| <input type="radio"/> Jason "Maddog" MILLER |

B101 Holly #5
B102 Stillwater #6
B106 Campton #8



SAMPLE BALLOT

PURSUANT TO KRS 424.290, "MATTERS REQUIRED TO BE PUBLISHED," THE FOLLOWING RACES WILL APPEAR ON THE VOTING MACHINES AND PAPER BALLOTS ALL PRECINCTS LISTED IN WOLFE COUNTY FOR THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY ELECTION, MAY 19, 2026

| UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One) | STATE SENATOR 30th Senatorial District (Vote for One) |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Daniel CAMERON | <input type="radio"/> Brandon D. SMITH |
| <input type="radio"/> Jonathan M. HOLLIDAY | <input type="radio"/> Billy WESLEY |
| <input type="radio"/> Andy BARR | |
| <input type="radio"/> Nate MORRIS | |
| <input type="radio"/> Valerie "Dr Val" FREDRICK | |
| <input type="radio"/> A. Nick SHELLEY | |
| <input type="radio"/> James D DUNCAN | |
| <input type="radio"/> Michael James FARIS | |
| <input type="radio"/> Anissa CATLETT | |
| <input type="radio"/> Other Donald WENZEL | |
| <input type="radio"/> Jimmy I. LEON | |
| <input type="radio"/> George WASHINGTON | |
| UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 5th Congressional District (Vote for One) | |
| <input type="radio"/> Kevin SMITH | |
| <input type="radio"/> Benjamin HURLEY | |
| <input type="radio"/> Hal ROGERS | |
| <input type="radio"/> Jerry Lee SHELTON | |
| <input type="radio"/> Brandon R. MONHOLLEN | |

ALL PRECINCTS

