

Timeline for Long-Term Policy Development in Kentucky

April 1988 LRC establishes a function called Issue Development to examine ways to assist the legislature to look longer range in its decisionmaking. One staff person is designated to work on this topic and relieved of other work responsibilities so that that individual can concentrate on the process and not get bogged down in the crises of the day.

August 1988 The LRC issue scanning team is established to prepare a monthly newsletter to alert legislators to emerging issues and innovative approaches to problems.

Spring 1988 The LRC approved a statewide conference to examine the need for long-term policy development in the state.

May 1989 A statewide conference entitled “Kentucky Horizons and Beyond” is held to focus on the need to institutionalize a long-term perspective into government decision-making. Fourteen agencies and organizations cosponsored the event, indicative of the awareness of the need for such an initiative. The overriding recommendation from the conference was that LRC should establish a special subcommittee to look at models for institutionalizing a long-term perspective in government decisionmaking.

Fall 1989 LRC established the Special Subcommittee on Long-Term Policy Development with membership from the executive and legislative branches, universities, the media, and the private and civic sectors.

The Special Subcommittee met through December of 1990 hearing testimony on various approaches to long-term policy development.

December 1990 The Special Subcommittee on Long-Term Policy Development sponsored a statewide conference called “Expanding Kentucky Horizons” to review and obtain input on three specific models for institutionalizing long-term policy development in Kentucky. The Editor of a major statewide newspaper in Kentucky was invited to give the keynote address.

April 1991 The Special Subcommittee made its final recommendation for a model for long-term policy development in Kentucky, drawing from the input from the statewide conference. Legislation was prepared.

January 1992 Legislation to establish the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center was introduced and passed by the 1992 Kentucky General Assembly.

July 1992 The Act became law.