250 YEARS of DEMOCRACY in ACTION

"Democracy transformed from thin paper to thick action is the greatest form of government on earth." - Martin Luther King Jr.
from his Montgomery Bus Boycott speech

ARCHIVES MONTH OCT.2026

For 250 years now, our country has practiced democracy to change and improve the laws that govern our society. Democracy leaves a record. From elections and legislation to protests and movements for equal rights, archives preserve the documents and images that tell the story of Kentuckians participating in civic life. These records give us the opportunity to look back, ask questions, and better understand how change happens.

"We find an informed democracy in an informed citizenry."
- Dr. Thomas D. Clark, Kentuckian Historian Laureate for Life; Champion of the State Archives

Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Friends of Kentucky Public Archives, Inc.

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TOP: Govenor Morrow signing , Anthony Ammendment Jan 6th, 1920 SOURCE: https://lccn.loc.gov/97510716
TOP MID: Govenor Breathitt signs Civil Rights Bill, 1966 SOURCE: KDLA State Archives
BOTTOM MID: Election Day at a school with new voting machince , 1970s SOURCE: KDLA State Archives
BOTTOM: Hunger Strikers, date unknown SOURCE: KDLA State Archives: