



Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Kentucky Venues

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Kentucky State Fair Board Names New President and CEO

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (April 5, 2018) — The Kentucky State Fair Board has named the Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation's top executive as its new President and CEO. David S. Beck, 63, has served as CEO of Farm Bureau since 1995, and brings over 40 years of experience in agriculture and governmental affairs to Kentucky Venues. The State Fair Board is the governing body for Kentucky Venues which manages the Kentucky Exposition Center and Kentucky International Convention Center.

"I'm truly humbled and excited for the opportunity to lead Kentucky Venues," said Beck. "Kentucky is thriving like never before, and I look forward to enhancing the properties and working with our partners to market and grow our business to attract even more national and international events."

A native of Lyon County in western Kentucky, Beck is a graduate of Murray State University and began his career with Kentucky Farm Bureau in 1977 as an area field service director.

"David Beck successfully led a large organization, involved in major state and national legislative regulatory issues affecting agriculture and rural Kentucky," said Don Parkinson, Secretary of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet. "He brings a wealth of business expertise to lead the sixth largest convention operation in the nation."

A five-member search committee was appointed by KSFB chairman Mark Lynn in January to review applications for the position which has been vacant since September, 2017. The Board will vote to officially approve Beck's contract at its April 26th meeting with a start date of July 1.

EDITOR'S NOTE: David Beck's biographical sheet and photo are attached.

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Under the [Kentucky Venues](#) brand of venues, entertainment, events and agriculture, two major convention and exhibition facilities — the Kentucky Exposition Center and the Kentucky International Convention Center — serve regional, national and international clients. Governed by the Kentucky State Fair Board, Kentucky Venues produces the Kentucky State Fair, National Farm Machinery Show, North American International Livestock Exposition, Championship Tractor Pull, World's Championship Horse Show and North American Championship Rodeo.