



Senate District 12

# 12TH DISTRICT

# THE ISSUES: STATE SENATE

CANDIDATES WERE ASKED TO ANSWER EACH QUESTION IN 45 WORDS OR FEWER

## EXPANDED GAMBLING

**Do you support or oppose allowing slot machines at horse racetracks without amending the Kentucky Constitution?**

I support putting this issue on the ballot and letting the people decide. During the last legislative session I voted for a constitutional amendment to allow the people to vote on expanded gambling. Every Democrat in the Senate voted against letting the people decide.

## TAXES

**Do you support or oppose eliminating the state income tax for individuals and/or businesses?**

To create jobs, I support reforms that make Kentucky more business-friendly. For too long, we've taxed production which drives manufacturing jobs to states like Tennessee with no income tax. Any changes to the tax code must be studied to ensure people are treated fairly.

## STATE BUDGET

**Name one specific cut, if any, to the state budget that you would support.**

During the last session, I supported a budget that cut government spending across the board (except for Medicaid and education) and did not raise taxes. By reining in spending, I helped create more efficient and effective government. The budget also reduced spending on state contracts.

## SPENDING

**Name one state program, if any, that requires more funding. How would you provide it?**

Government must review how agencies are spending tax dollars to find ways to cut waste. Then, we can set spending priorities for areas like education and health care. I support requiring agencies to justify spending before a legislative committee hearing open to the public.

## LAWMAKER PENSIONS

**Would you support or oppose elimination of pensions for state lawmakers?**

A qualified support. This year, I voted for legislation that closed loopholes and stopped legislators from boosting their pensions at taxpayer expense.

## EDUCATION

**Do you support or oppose increasing the dropout age from 16 to 18?**

I support increasing the dropout age to 18.

## ALICE FORGY KERR

**Party:** Republican  
**Born:** Aug. 30, 1954  
**Residence:** Lexington  
**Occupation:** Director of academic advising, Midway College  
**Web site:** Aliceforgykerr.com



## DON BLEVINS SR.

**Party:** Democrat  
**Born:** Dec. 16, 1936  
**Residence:** Lexington  
**Occupation:** Retired Fayette County Clerk  
**Web site:** Blevinsforsenate.com



The scratch-off Kentucky lottery ticket, available statewide in hundreds of places, is already a slot machine presented in paper form. Therefore, to keep the horse industry jobs in Kentucky, no constitutional amendment is required for the Kentucky Lottery to operate slot machines at the racetracks.

I favor comprehensive tax reform, starting and ending revenue-neutral, by examining every current taxable item plus examining every current tax-exempt item. I oppose any piecemeal approach to tax reform. I favor a tax revenue stream that is both fair and reliable.

I would repeal the Legislative Pension System. Service in the General Assembly is part-time work, and part-time work should not produce a pension at taxpayers' expense.

The education system in this state requires more funding. I would use the revenue produced by expanded gaming at the horse racetracks to supplement the underfunded portions of the education system in Kentucky.

I would support the elimination of pensions for lawmakers. Service in the General Assembly is part-time work, 60 days one year, 30 days the next. There is no rational justification to furnish a pension system for part-time legislators.

I strongly support raising the dropout age to 18. Under-educated people will face increasing difficulty finding work in the future.