

**Kentucky Candidate Information Survey**



[www.votekentucky.us](http://www.votekentucky.us)

Photo not available



**26<sup>th</sup> SENATE DISTRICT**



Bill Ferko

Karen Berg

**Vote Kentucky!**

*The best way to prepare Kentucky students for the modern economy is a strong, content-rich, basic education for every child.*

**“STRONGLY AGREE.** Education is the foundation for our future and enables our country to compete globally.”

*Leaders should make reforming Kentucky’s antiquated tax system a top priority.*

**“STRONGLY AGREE.** Kentucky is one of the highest tax states. We need to be competitive with other states so people and companies want to move here.”

*In Kentucky schools, women should compete against biological women (not biological men who identify as women) in athletic contests.*

**Candidate chose not to participate.**

**“STRONGLY AGREE.** Sports need to be fun and competitive, competing with someone who changed gender can make it unfair.”

*Kentucky should pass legislation raising the minimum wage.*

**“UNDECIDED.** Some businesses where tips and gratuities are involved need to remain viable and raising minimum wage too far will destroy them.”

*The state should acknowledge global warming and work to limit Kentucky’s contribution to it.*

**“AGREE.** We need to be concerned about our environment and leave the world a better place for our children.”

*The state should stop U of L’s partnership with Louisville’s oldest abortion clinic.*

**“STRONGLY AGREE.** I am pro-life and do not believe in abortion.”

*Public schools should allow students to use bathrooms and locker rooms in accordance with their chosen gender identity.*

**“STRONGLY DISAGREE.** I don’t want children of a different gender in the same bathroom as my child.”

*A tuition tax-credit system should be established for needy students wanting to go to non-public schools.*

**“AGREE.** We need to level the playing field for our children. A tax deduction for tuition is another alternative.”

*To reduce teen pregnancies, minors should have access to contraception without parental knowledge.*

**“STRONGLY DISAGREE.** Minors are minors - parents are responsible for their children - where else do you draw the line?”

*Kentucky should legalize recreational marijuana.*

**“UNDECIDED.** More research is needed for recreational but I do support medical marijuana.”

*The legislature should pass a statewide “Fairness Ordinance.”*

**“UNDECIDED.** I believe in the concept of fairness but it depends on how you define it.”

*Churches and religious groups must be protected from state discrimination on the basis of their beliefs about marriage and sexuality.*

**“STRONGLY AGREE.** Religious freedom is a fundamental constitutional right.”

**About the Kentucky Candidate Information Survey (KCIS) . . .**

• The purpose of the **KCIS** is to reliably report candidates’ views to voters in order to improve:

- 1) voter knowledge of the candidates;
- 2) voter participation; and
- 3) the quality of the democratic process.

• The **KCIS** is designed to neutrally, yet concisely, report the candidates’ views in their own words on a broad range of issues. Each candidate was asked to respond to the assertions listed and was given 20 words to qualify his or her response. This issues-only, head-to-head approach avoids pushing a particular agenda, but at the same time, cuts through the political rhetoric often found in campaign literature.

• The **KCIS** is a non-partisan project of the Family Trust Foundation of Kentucky, a non-profit educational organization incorporated in order to encourage and strengthen families in our state. Encouraging responsible citizenship and increasing voter participation are two of its objectives.

• For more information on the **KCIS**, call (859) 255-5300 or for more information on the candidates, visit:

[www.votekentucky.us](http://www.votekentucky.us)

**Be sure to take time to vote on Tuesday, June 23!**

**Kentucky  
Candidate  
Information  
Survey**



[www.votekentucky.us](http://www.votekentucky.us)



**26<sup>th</sup> SENATE  
DISTRICT**



**Republican Candidates**

Jefferson (part) and Oldham Counties

**Karen Berg**

**Bill Ferko**

[billferko.com](http://billferko.com)

***The Decision is Yours!***

● On **Tuesday, June 23**, voters will go to the polls to vote in the Spring Primary Election. Ballots will include State House and Senate seats, Congressional seats, and a U.S Senate seat, as well as certain judicial races. Note: Not all districts have a contested race.

● For more information on your voter registration status or to find out what district you live in, please contact your county clerk or visit the Secretary of State's Voter Information Center:

[sos.ky.gov/elections](http://sos.ky.gov/elections)

***Special Thanks to the Candidates . . .***

We want to thank all the candidates who participated in the **Survey** and all those who considered our invitation but chose not to respond. We are grateful to everyone who stepped forward to offer their leadership by running for office in our great Commonwealth.

***To Kentucky citizens . . .***

We trust that you, as a citizen of Kentucky, have been served by this endeavor and that you will in turn serve your community by voting your conscience on **Tuesday, June 23**.

<p><i>To protect the poor, the state should act to curb exorbitant interest rates charged by payday lending companies.</i></p>		<p><b>"AGREE.</b> Usury and usurious interest rates should be illegal. Reasonable transaction fees should be permitted."</p>
<p><i>Personal and creative service businesses should not be forced to produce goods or services that violate their rights of conscience.</i></p>	<p><b>Candidate chose not to participate.</b></p>	<p><b>"STRONGLY AGREE.</b> Nobody should be forced to do anything that violates their rights of conscience."</p>
<p><i>Illegal immigrants should be prohibited from obtaining driver's licenses and other government documents.</i></p>		<p><b>"UNDECIDED.</b> We need to somehow keep track of everyone. If someone is illegal - why are they still here?"</p>
<p><i>Recent school shootings prove that we need more restrictive gun laws.</i></p>		<p><b>"UNDECIDED.</b> We first need to enforce the gun laws that we have."</p>
<p><i>Because they leave children sterile for life, transgender surgeries and hormone treatments on minors should be banned.</i></p>		<p><b>"STRONGLY AGREE.</b> Minors are not in a position to make a surgery decision that will impact the remainder of their life."</p>
<p><i>Schools should familiarize students with all sides of debates on issues like evolution and global warming.</i></p>		<p><b>"AGREE.</b> Students should be exposed to unbiased views with both sides of issues."</p>
<p><i>Kentucky should pass expanded gambling legislation to fund state pensions.</i></p>		<p><b>"UNDECIDED.</b> I do not want to do anything that will hurt the horse industry. I don't know if we need to expand gambling."</p>
<p><i>University of Kentucky's tuition is now several times higher than in 2002. All state college tuition increases should be limited.</i></p>		<p><b>"UNDECIDED.</b> Tuition needs to align with inflation. Somehow our universities need more funding to be desirable for prospective students."</p>
<p><i>List your top three priorities should you be elected.</i></p>		<p>"1. Louisville metro receiving fair share of tax revenue. 2. Budget challenges from COVID-19. 3. Better roads and infrastructure and I am pro-life."</p>

***The decision is yours . . .  
Make it wisely!***