



# JAMES TIPTON

POLITICAL PARTY: DEMOCRATIC

POLITICAL RACE: KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## What is your position on establishing liability protections for employers from frivolous lawsuits related to COVID-19?

it needs to happen at the Federal level to have the greatest impact, but I fully support this on the state level as well.

## What are your top budget priorities for the 2021 session?

Maintaining funding for our public pensions and adequately funding K-12 and Higher Education.

## What criminal justice reforms would you support and/or oppose in the 2021 session?

I am open to having a discussion about these issues. I will need to see specific legislation but issues like bail reform need to be addressed.

## What are your transportation and infrastructure priorities for 2021?

First, we must adequately maintain our existing roads and bridges across the state. We must see the widening of the Gene Snyder to completion. My district needs a four lane road from the Snyder down to the intersection of Hwy 148 and long term a two plus one highway to Taylorsville. I am also working toward improvements of Hwy 44 from Shepherdsville to Taylorsville.

## What steps do you think the General Assembly should take to lower the unemployment rate and get Kentuckians back to work?

In the short term, we must establish how we can safely get people back to work and open up our economy. Long term goals center around workforce development. It starts with a high quality education that goes from P to 20. Our citizens must have the skills and credentials to meet the workforce needs of our 21st century economy.



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## How can the General Assembly most effectively support K-12 schools and higher education institutions in the 2021 session?

I believe that parents need more options and flexibility in education choices for their children. I am particularly interested in Kindergarten readiness and making sure that children can read at a proficient level by the fourth grade. We need intense interventions for our students who are behind in K-3 Literacy Education. I am currently working with the Pritchard Committee on a Taskforce for Teacher Preparation for early Literacy and Numeracy.

## What changes to Kentucky's tax code would you support to improve Kentucky's business competitiveness?

I support moving toward a more consumption based tax model with less dependence on taxing productivity.

## What measures would you support in the 2021 session to support Kentucky's economic recovery?

Besides liability protection for businesses, we need to have a ready, able and skilled workforce. We need to decrease the burden of unnecessary and burdensome regulations.