Dear Friends:

I want to express my appreciation to you for continuing to allow me to serve as your state senator. I am humbled by the trust shown in me, and will continue to work diligently to make sure your voice is heard in the Capitol.

On Tuesday, January 5, 2016, both houses of the General Assembly began a 60-day legislative session which establishes a new bi-annual budget for the Commonwealth. My colleagues and I are addressing several other important issues, such as economic and job development, education, and energy independence.

I appreciate the constituents who have expressed their priorities and concerns in the past, and I am writing today to ask your opinion on important issues which face our state and will shape Kentucky's future. I have attached a survey covering some of the topics the General Assembly may consider during the 2016 Session. Please take the time to review it, answer the questions, and return the completed survey to:

Senator Max Wise

Capitol Annex Building, Room 229

702 Capitol Ave.

Frankfort, KY 40601

I know your time is valuable, therefore I want to thank you in advance for taking the time to read and complete the survey. Please feel free to make copies to give to your family and neighbors, and encourage them to mail their responses to my office.

If you have any other concerns, please do not hesitate to call my toll free number at 1-800-372-7181. I am honored to be your state senator, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Senator Max Wise

Please let me know how important the following issues are to you:

1) Change the process to get a marriage license and remove the name and signature of the County Clerk from the form?

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

2) Defund *Planned Parenthood* by passing legislation preventing that organization from receiving any money from Kentucky's state budget.

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

3) Allow the General Assembly to stop job-killing administrative regulations when it is not in Session.

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

4) End frivolous lawsuits by creating medical malpractice claim boards to review cases against health care providers before they can be pursued in court.

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

5) Clarify current law to allow a woman considering ending her pregnancy to have a face-to-face meeting with a doctor to answer questions about the invasive surgery and any long-term physical consequences she may face.

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
		O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

6) Create charter schools to help start closing the educational achievement gap in the worst-performing school districts.

Not Important	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Very Important
	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	

Please let me know your opinion of the following important issues as we near the beginning of the 2016 Session of the General Assembly:

7) Kentucky is the only state in the southeast which has not adopted Right-to-Work legislation. In Kentucky, workers in some jobs must join a union and pay union dues as a condition of employment. Should Kentucky pass Right-to-Work legislation so workers are not required to join a union allowing Kentucky to compete with neighboring states in attracting & keeping jobs?

O   Yes

O   No

8) The final cost of publicly-funded projects, like schools, includes the use of the "prevailing wage" which mandates higher wages be paid to workers on tax-funded projects. Studies show that this can force the cost of these projects from 10-20% higher than a similar project funded by private industry. Should Kentucky eliminate the use of "prevailing wage" to reduce the cost of publicly funded projects?

O   Yes

O   No

9) Should Kentucky delay the start of the school year until late August to help grow our tourism industry and provide more flexibility for families?

O   Yes

O   No

10) Do you support making it easier to remove misdemeanors from someone's record if they've committed no more crimes? This is also known as expungement.

O   Yes

O   No

11) The Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System (KTRS) is facing a large unfunded liability, which means it owes more money in benefits to retirees and current teachers than it can make in investments over the next 30 years. But the system is not in danger of failing, it can continue paying benefits for the next 21 years. One possible solution to funding the KTRS would require state government to take out $3 Billion in loans (bonds) and then give the money to the KTRS to invest. Supporters of that plan say historically low interest rates would allow the KTRS to make money off investments while state government pays off the bonds. Opponents say state government can't afford to go any deeper into debt and it's possible the KTRS could actually lose money investing the money from the bonds.

Should the General Assembly authorize the $3 Billion in loans (bonds) to provide more money for the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System to invest while the taxpayers pay the money back over 10 years?

O   Yes

O   No

12) There are other proposals to help fix the unfunded liability at the KTRS. These include creating a new retirement plan for teachers that will be hired in the future or closing loopholes that allow some teachers to artificially increase their retirement benefits to requiring the state and teachers to pay more in contributions when the stock market is down. Should the General Assembly pass structural reforms to help the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System close the unfunded liability rather than authorize $3 Billion in bonds?

O   Yes

O   No

13) Do you support restoring voting rights to convicted felons who have completed the terms of their sentence?

O   Yes

O   No

Please tell me about some of the problems you see facing our communities or provide ideas for bills I should support during the 2015 Session.

Please return your completed legislative survey to:

Senator Ralph Alvarado

Capitol Annex Building Room 229

702 Capitol Ave

Frankfort, KY, 40601

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____