

Candidate: **Kelly R. Merrick**

Senate District: **L**

Party Affiliation: **Republican**

House District:

If elected, will you support continuing to meet the State's obligation to fund the Defined Benefit retiree pension and health benefit accounts?

Yes

Do you favor legislation enacting an optional Defined Benefit program for ALL new public employees?

Other: This certainly depends on how the program is set up. We must ensure the state does not create the unfunded liability that happened previously.

If you believe only certain public employees should be eligible for an optional Defined Benefit program, which classes of employees are those?

I was a co-sponsor of HB55.

Retirees in a Defined Benefit System contribute significantly to Alaska's economy, both while employed and after retirement. If you are elected, how will you help encourage retirees to stay in Alaska?

Ensure we do not decimate state services, including Pioneer Homes.

Do you support holding a Constitutional Convention?

NO: **YES:** **No Opinion:**

If you support holding a Constitutional Convention, Why?

If elected, will you support resolving State budget gaps?

Yes

How do you propose solving the State budget gap? (Check all that apply)

- Further cuts to the State operating budget.**
- Limit the State capital budget.**
- Increase taxes on oil and gas companies.**
- Implement a statewide income tax.**
- Implement a statewide sales tax.**
- Implement other new taxes.**
- Changing the PDF formula.**
- No Opinion**

Other: