



BLAIR WALSINGHAM

CANDIDATE,
US CONGRESS,
1ST DISTRICT
TENNESSEE

Blair Believes

***"Economic development** in East Tennessee is built off the hard labor of our communities and the sacrifices of precious land & resources. Yet, the local poverty level and paycheck-to-paycheck lifestyle of our residents leaves too many of us to financial instability.*

We live in the wealthiest nation in the history of the world, and our people should reap the rewards. "

JOBS & THE ECONOMY

Investing in the People of East Tennessee

THE ISSUES:

- Only 10% of small businesses can expect to survive their first year.
- Tennessee has some of the lowest wages in the country, ranking 39th in the U.S.
- The median wage in TN is just hundreds of dollars above the living wage leaving many in Tennessee on the brink of financial hardship
- Nearly 17% of our residents live in poverty, placing us among the 10 states with the highest poverty level in the U.S.
- Tennessee has some of the lowest union representation in the country

Blair will:

- Expand broadband to support entrepreneurs, working from home, and increased profitability to employ more workers
- Vote for infrastructure projects to ensure safe transport of goods
- Support growth of hemp farms to employ more workers and expand business
- Prioritize small business growth and opportunity over multinational corporate interest
- Advocate for more healthcare centers which will provide more job opportunities
- Infuse \$600B annually into the 1st District economy through a Freedom Dividend of \$1000/mo
- Encourage growth of renewable energy sector to increase employment opportunities
- Expand support for agritourism
- Support initiatives to keep our independent farmers competitive and profitable
- Increase & diversify vocational education opportunities
- Empower the NLRB to guarantee negotiations and fine companies for illegally hampering union formation.
- Support the development of union automation expertise and access with AFL-CIO's proposed Technology Institute as a model.
- Encourage sectoral bargaining for tech and gig workers so union members can easily move between jobs while expecting the same floor wages and working conditions.
- Support community centers, such as churches, to set up credit unions or provide microloans, checking and savings accounts, and personal loans.

