

## PRE-KINDERGARTEN INTERIM STUDY LEGISLATIVE SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHIES

### **SENATOR SLADE BLACKWELL, (R-Alabama)**



Senator Slade Blackwell, a native of Montevallo, was elected to the state senate in November 2010.

He attended Montevallo High School and later went on to receive his undergraduate degree from the University of Montevallo in 1991 where received a degree in Art and was a member of the basketball team.

In 1996, Senator Blackwell opened his own company, Inkana Development. A fully integrated real estate company, Inkana, specializes in real estate and development structuring for complex projects, partnerships, and joint ventures in the healthcare and infrastructure industries.

In the Alabama State Senate, Blackwell is Chairman of the Banking and Insurance committee, Vice-Chairman of the Job Creation and Economic Development committee and serves on the Health, Confirmations, Education, Business and Labor, Finance & Taxation Education committees.

Senator Blackwell currently serves on the board for the Lakeshore Foundation, the Birmingham History Center, the Pinson Education Foundation, the Birmingham Golf Association and the Shelby Arts Council. He is also involved in several organizations throughout the state including the Alabama Republican Party, the Birmingham Business Alliance and several chambers of commerce. Blackwell also serves as a volunteer coach for several youth basketball teams.

He is married to Dr. Sally Salter and together they have three children: twin boys, Colby and Grant, and a daughter, Hagen.

### **REP. LEE DENNEY, Speaker Pro Tempore Elect (R-Oklahoma)**



Representative Denney is from Cushing, OK and has been a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives for 10 years, serving District 33.

Representative Denney served as the Assistant Majority Floor Leader and will be sworn in as the Speaker Pro Tempore for this upcoming legislative session. She is chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Common Education and also serves on the following committees: Appropriations and Budget, Higher Education and Career Technology, Energy, and Common Education.

Outside of her legislative duties, Rep. Denney is a Veterinarian, having earned a BS in agricultural economics and doctorate in veterinary medicine from Oklahoma State University.

Representative Denney has been honored by the Journal Record as one of the states “50 Women Making a Difference”. She has also received the Distinguished Service Award presented by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Representative Denney has two children: Will is currently working in web design and teaching foreign language; Kate is recently married to Craig Kupiec, and is a clinical pharmacist.