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By Chandler Myers

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The Atmore Lions Club received a prestigious visitor Tuesday night for their dinner meeting at David's Catfish House.

Kay Ivey, State Treasurer for the State of Alabama, visited Atmore's civic club to address club members and guests about her run for governor.

Ivey's visit marked her second trip to Atmore in less than two years after she visited for the Relay for Life kickoff event in 2008.

In regards to her visit Ivey said that meeting with citizens of the state is important to her.

"Making stops like this is essential," she said. "It's the people's state, it's the people's businesses and it's the people's government. I'd much rather be speaking in front of people than be on the boob tube."

During her visit, Ivey spoke about the state of economy as well as what people need to do when speaking with their state politicians.

Ivey said to the crowd at hand that things could get worse before they get better, and added that the state would benefit from having a leader who knows the ins and outs of finance.

"Time are about to get worse for us more than we've ever experienced," she said. "It might not be as bad in other states, but in the State of Alabama

it's about to be in dire straits. It's been a pleasure for me to serve two terms as your State Treasurer, and if you'll give me the opportunity, I'd like to take the oath of office as your governor. Who better to elect than someone who has the working knowledge of our state's finances than someone who has dealt with them like I have."

Ivey's qualifications for the not only include her knowledge of finances, but also endorsements from prominent Republicans.

The republican gubernatorial candidate has received an endorsement from former Massachusetts governor and Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney.

As for Ivey's ideas on improving the state's economy, she said it does not include gambling.

"The bottom line is that expanding jobs by expanding gaming is a poor business model," she said. "There are better ways to sustain jobs without expanding gaming. A better business model would be creating jobs is by putting more money into expanding industries or encouraging small businesses to expand."

Her opinion of the state's constitution, which happens to be the longest in the world is just as straight forward as her take on gambling.

Ivey said that there is no need for a constitutional convention although some changes could be made.

"I am opposed to a constitutional convention," she said. "I will not substantiate to something that could lead to more taxes. There are some rules that need to be changed, and if changes are made then do

it item by them. A convention is the least desirable method.”