

## United States Representative      2 Year Term – Vote for One (1)

*Candidates were asked to summarize their backgrounds in 75 words and were allotted 75 words to answer each question. If the candidate did not reply by the required date for publication, the words, "Did not respond in time for publication" appear under the candidate's name.*

**QUESTION 1**  
**Are you concerned about the size of the federal deficit? Explain your answer.**

**QUESTION 2**  
**What government measures would you propose to improve access to affordable health care?**

**QUESTION 3**  
**The United States uses a great deal of fossil fuel for power generation and transportation. What measures would you support to tackle the ever increasing need for energy?**

### ★★★★★ 6th District ★★★★★

#### **Fred Upton, Republican**

First elected to Congress in 1986. Currently a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman of the Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee. Fred personally reads and signs some 500 legislative letters he receives each week. Fred grew up in St. Joseph. A graduate of University of Michigan, he and his wife, Amey, have two children.

Absolutely. When we had a surplus, I supported paying down the debt. I support the line item veto and identifying member's earmarks. I support priorities for education and health research within the federal budget, as well as tax cuts. I have offered and supported amendments saving the taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars every year.

I have worked to expand Medicaid coverage for the poor, providing increased funding for community health centers, providing prescription drug coverage and preventive health coverage, and enacting the State Children's Health Insurance Program (Michigan's program is MICHILD). I also support Health Savings Accounts (HSAs).

Conservation and alternative fuels are important. I introduced an ethanol bill which would require all gasoline to have a 10% ethanol blend by the year 2012. Cars need no changes to use it, so we can start cutting down right now! I support using a wide range of renewable fuels: wind, solar, waste-to-energy and nuclear power. I want the U.S. to be a leader in alternative fuels as we have led the world in other innovations.

#### **Kim Clark, Democrat**

I'm a businessman and community leader with a varied background. I reside in Three Oaks, MI, named one of Michigan's "Cool Cities" due in large part to my leadership. I have been a banker, professor, advertising executive and entrepreneur. Born April 6, 1959, I have a BA in Applied Psychology from Loyola Univ. and a BA in Christian Education from Moody Bible Institute. I believe that my broad background will serve me well in Congress.

I consider myself a fiscal conservative and am gravely concerned about the federal deficit. As a businessman I can't write a check unless I have money in the bank. As a Congressman I will push for more responsible government spending. I believe the cost of the Iraq war be included in the "official" federal budget, that we should restore budget surpluses through fair tax structure and that the Social Security Account should not be raided.

I believe that quality affordable health care should be available to all and fully support Rep Conyers HR 676 which would extend Medicare coverage to all residents of the US.

It is vital that the federal government help fund research and development of alternative fuels. Not only would such development help reduce dependence on foreign oil, it would improve the environment, provide manufacturing jobs in the production of alternative fuels and be a boon to the agricultural industry. The government should also create public policy that encourages the conservation of fossil fuels.

#### **Kenneth E. Howe, Libertarian**

Did not submit response.

Very much so. I feel strongly that the size of the federal government needs to be reduced.

Get the government out of the health care industry. When private concerns can, they do a wonderful job of helping people.

Get the government out of the energy industry. I believe the free marketplace will easily develop a much more efficient way to provide our energy needs.

### ★★★★★ 7th District ★★★★★

#### **Tim Walberg, Republican**

Did not respond in time for publication.

#### **Sharon Marie Renier, Democrat**

Born: 2/15/56. One Son-Gunnar-15. Organic Farmer. Paralegal for Dykema, Gossett; Chrysler Corp.; U of M Law School. Completed The Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School. Background in Science from U of M School of Natural Resources and Environment. Board of Director for not-for-profits, and guest lecturer at U of M, USDA Farm Women's Symposium, and keynote speaker in San Salvador, El Salvador. Worked with the United Nations under CEDAW. Speak 3 languages.

Yes, especially when most of it has been generated in just the past few years. We must have a balanced budget amendment added to the US Constitution. We also need a roll call vote when money is being spent and we need to have a line item veto. Better yet, quit tacking unrelated projects onto bills. We also need to quit borrowing to pay Social Security and use the tax dollars that are collected.

We need to be getting folks off the couch, eating right, and stop overmedicating ourselves. Also, take the cap off Social Security. If a person makes over \$87,900, they no longer pay into Social Security. So, in the short time I have been typing this answer, Bill Gates has made \$87,900. No monies, after he has made \$87,900, are taxed on Social Security. This solution will pay for national healthcare for everyone.

First, I would work on Conservation. Next, I would give consumers tax credits for home improvements that would reduce their heating and utility bills—better windows, insulation, etc. I would give tax credits for companies in the solar energy business to help them harness the real nuclear reactor—the sun. I would also work closely with our auto industry to help them out of their slump and watch them become real innovators in new technology.

#### **David Horn, US Taxpayers**

Did not respond in time for publication.

#### **Robert L. Hutchinson, Libertarian**

Born 6/12/23 in Ypsi, MI. Graduated from Ypsi High School in 1941. Joined Air Force 1942. Forced down in Switzerland in Sept. 1943. Served as secret code clerk to military attaché in Berne, Switzerland. Released from active duty Aug. 1945. Worked in the electrical business until retirement at age 60. Have been active participant in politics since high school.

Yes, I am concerned about the Federal deficit. If we quit being policemen of the world, my concern would be eased considerably.

Well chosen research grants would help relieve health care problems.

The U.S. uses a great deal of fossil fuel fighting against people and countries that have done us no harm. Fund military for defense only!