

Michigan U.S. Representative District 3

General Election: November 6, 2018

3 Candidates on the ballot

Duties: U.S. Representatives share the responsibility with U.S. Senators for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Laws that require payment of taxes are initiated in the House of Representatives.

Qualifications: A Representative must be at least 25 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 7 years. There are 435 Representative based on Congressional Districts apportioned after each census. Michigan has 14 districts as of 2012.

Term: 2 years **Vote for ONE (1).**

JUSTIN AMASH, Republican



Website: www.justinamash.com

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Occupation / Current Position: U.S. Representative in Congress, small business owner

Education: A.B., magna cum laude, Economics, University of Michigan, 2002; J.D., University of Michigan Law School, 2005

Qualifications / Experience: Michigan State Representative, 2009-2010; Consultant, Michigan Industrial Tools, 2005-2010; Business lawyer, Varnum LLP, 2006-2007. Member of St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, State Bar of Michigan, The Economic Club of Grand Rapids, Kent County Republican Executive Committee, Republican Liberty Caucus, Alumni Association of the University of Michigan.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: What are your top three national legislative priorities and how would you address them?

A: Defending liberty and economic prosperity, and eliminating corporate welfare. I've been a leader in defense of our constitutionally secured rights to due process and against unreasonable searches and seizures. I oppose warrantless spying on Americans and unconstitutional civil asset forfeiture. I support criminal justice reform. I support reducing taxes and unnecessary regulations. We also must address the biggest debt drivers—mandatory spending programs and military spending. I'll continue fighting corporate welfare that confiscates resources from hardworking Americans to give favors to the politically connected.

2. IMMIGRATION: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?

A: Immigrants are an important part of our community and workforce, and they should not be discouraged from seeking a life and job here; however, it is important for them to do so legally. We need to secure the border, enforce visa overstays, and improve the legal immigration system. In enforcing our immigration laws, we must act consistent with our principles as Americans. That means not forcibly and unnecessarily separating children from their parents. It also means treating with compassion refugees and others seeking asylum in the United States.

3. HEALTH CARE: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?

A: The current approach to health insurance causes higher premiums and fewer choices. We need reforms that will reduce the real costs of health care. A sustainable health care system requires patients and doctors to consider the costs and benefits of each decision and work together to choose the right treatment. It also must provide adequate care for those with low incomes or pre-existing conditions. I support permitting individuals to claim the same health care tax credit provided to employers, and innovative programs that improve care and reduce costs by aligning the incentives of patients, doctors, and hospitals.

4. ECONOMY: What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?

A: The federal government can best help the economy and reduce unemployment by making regulations predictable and uncomplicated, simplifying the tax code, and letting businesses stand or fail on their own merit. I will continue to oppose and vote against corporate welfare.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.

A: All forms of energy should be allowed; none should get special benefits. We should cut unnecessary or overly burdensome regulations and rein in overzealous regulatory agencies. The best way to protect the environment is through strict enforcement of property rights, which encourages conservation and produces innovations to keep the world clean and safe. Government should punish those who pollute others' land, water, or air, but it shouldn't micromanage environmental protection through economic incentives. Such efforts harm the economy in the long run and hamper development of environmentally friendly technologies.

6. ELECTIONS: What federal policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: All candidates and political parties should be subject to the same rules. For too long, policies at all levels of government have improperly advantaged the two major parties at the expense of independent and third-party candidates. These policies have hurt voters by making elections less competitive and driving partisan politics. For federal elections, I support eliminating such distinctions—from ballot access to contribution limits—to ensure the law is not artificially protecting candidates or parties from competition. I also believe there should be an independent process for drawing districts.

CATHY ALBRO, Democrat



Website: <https://cathyalbroforcongress.com>

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Occupation / Current Position: Candidate for Congress, Michigan's 3rd District

Education: Michigan State University BS Child Development & Elementary Education; Graduate studies in early childhood education and elementary curriculum development

Qualifications / Experience: Teacher and educator serving diverse communities.

Small business owner: Creative Learning Toys - 30 years (Grand Rapids). Small business owner: Creative Learning Center - 15 years (Grand Rapids). Advisor: Grand Rapids Children's Museum. Consultant & Director: Elementary Education with Highscope Educational Research Foundation (Nationwide). Activist: Education, families, peace, environment. Farmer

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: What are your top three national legislative priorities and how would you address them?

A: The top three priorities on my agenda are: a public education system that prepares ALL children for success in life, health care for all, and an economy where everyone has the opportunity to thrive, not just survive. As a teacher, I know that we could be doing so much more to invest in our children, and the Department of Education must hold states accountable to provide the highest quality free education from birth through career. I will work for a single-payer health care system that focuses on wellness, costs less and is more efficient. Everyone who works 40 hours per week must make a livable wage.

2. IMMIGRATION: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?

A: Except for the Indigenous People, we're all immigrants or descendants of immigrants. My immigration reform plans include: Ending the inhumane ICE detention and deportation policies, legislating a fair policy to keep immigrant families together and children safe. A quick path to citizenship for DACA people. Modernizing border security and ending militarization of our southern border. Legislating new fair and humane immigration policies; addressing family-based worker visas, expanding legal rights of immigrant workers, strengthening support for refugees and asylum-seekers, and upholding the Diversity Visa program.

3. HEALTH CARE: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?

A: The debate should be over. Health care is a human right. Most other developed countries have health care systems that are more efficient and much less costly than ours. We must study their best-practices and develop, with urgency, building on the ACA and the Medicare model. New mothers and their babies are much more likely to die in the U.S. than most other wealthy nations and black mothers and children fare much worse. We must ensure researchers and providers address all the critical issues for healthy pregnancies and births, including family planning and comprehensive sex ed.

4. ECONOMY: What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?

A: Raise the minimum wage to a livable wage and add earned paid time off. Strengthen employee bargaining rights, including unions. Invest in infrastructure that not only fixes our roads and bridges but provides efficient mass transit, affordable housing, and updated water and sewer systems. These moves reduce burdens on low-income families. A large investment in infrastructure will also add many good paying jobs to our economy. An investment in healthy communities, including community-based decision-making. Removing barriers for home and business ownership. Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.

A: I support funding for renewable energy research and development, not subsidizing fossil fuel companies. Our infrastructure investment must include an updated energy transmission grid and support for energy efficiency. We must have stronger protections against pollution and hold polluters accountable for the full cost of toxin mitigation and require all states to be accountable for those high standards. Natural resources are shared between states, and must be federally protected. Our Great Lakes and other Michigan watersheds must continue to be protected by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other policies.

6. ELECTIONS: What federal policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: Anyone should be able to run for office, regardless of their economic status or ability to raise huge amounts of money. I support campaign finance reform that would provide equal or matching public funding for federal candidates with a lower cap on private donations. I would work to reverse the Citizen's United decision, including large "super-PAC" donations. All donations must be fully transparent. Voting is a right of all U.S. citizens, including those who have served their time for a crime. I support policies that simplify registration and voting. We MUST keep elections safe from manipulation.

THEODORE GERRARD, U.S. Taxpayers



Occupation / Current Position: Owner Electrician Wilderness Electric Inc, Educator.
Owner Driver Holy Spirit More Delivery Co.

Education: AAAS Industrial Mechanics, BS Vocational Education

Qualifications / Experience: Submarine force Veteran, Business owner, Employer,
Educator, Tax Payer, Dirty finger nails

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: What are your top three national legislative priorities and how would you address them?

A: Abolish the US Dept. of Ed. return control of the class room to the teachers and parents. 3% per year spending reduction by all federal agencies.

2. IMMIGRATION: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?

A: First those that mean to cause us harm whether that be human and drug trafficking or terrorism must be interrupted. Those that want to come here to work short or long term should be primarily based on benefit to the US. Is a wall necessary, in some areas yes, in most areas electronic surveillance is more suitable. "Sanctuary cities / states" loose ALL federal dollars.

3. HEALTH CARE: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?

A: Repeal "Obama care" Encourage states and insurance companies to work together in developing a national health insurance market. Review the science and health risks of GMO foods.

4. ECONOMY: What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?

A: Repeal the 16th amendment, abolish the IRS, implement an 18% sales tax on all "non consumable" such as food.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.

A: Increase the number of Energy from Waste facilities, with the proper filtration these facilities can generate electricity with very low stack emissions while reducing land fill volume. Continue to encourage the development of wind, solar, and hydro. Research and implement systems to reduce risk with existing pipelines while replacing aging pipelines that continue to be necessary for economic stability.

6. ELECTIONS: What federal policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: Citizens over the age of 18 may vote with valid ID. You can only donate to a candidate that you can vote for. Any candidate covered in a news story all other candidates for that office get free equal time.

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