

Michigan State Senate District 22

3 Candidates on the November 6, 2018 ballot

Duties: The Michigan Senate shares responsibility with the Michigan House of Representatives to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws.

Qualifications: State Senators may serve a maximum of two full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 38 State Senate districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

Term: 4 years Vote for ONE (1)

LANA THEIS, Republican



Website: www.LanaTheis.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TheisForSenate/>

Occupation / Current Position: State Representative, 42nd District

Education: Bachelor's degree in Biology and a minor in Chemistry from California State University, Fullerton.

Qualifications / Experience: State Representative: 2015-Present Treasurer of Brighton Township: 2008-2014 Former Chair of the Brighton Area Fire Authority Former Chair of the Livingston County Treasurers Assoc. Former Member of the Brighton Township Planning Commission Recipient of the Award for Conservative Excellence Voting Record from the American Conservative Union Foundation Guardian Award by the NFIB

Questions:

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

A: 1) Auto No-Fault Reform: We need to address the major cost drivers behind our high rates -- a lack of choice, out-of-control medical billings, attendant care, fraud, uninsured drivers and the MCCA -- in order to reform the system and lower rates. 2) Occupational Licensing Reform: The government needs to have fewer hurdles and less regulations for those who want to work in skilled trades and services. 3) Protecting the Vulnerable: It is important that we protect the unborn, victims of sexual assaults, our seniors and those among us that are the most vulnerable.

2. EDUCATION: What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

A: I believe we need to eliminate categorical funding without our k-12 budget, which would allow our local school districts the flexibility to spend the dollars they receive how they best see fit. I am supportive of allowing our teachers the opportunity to use their expertise to educate using the most effective learning style of each child, and allowing parents to choose their methods of education -- I oppose a top-down directive on education methods and content like Common Core.

3. ECONOMY: What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

A: In Michigan, the law few years have resulted in fewer state level regulations, and this trend needs to continue. Small business are the lifeblood of Michigan's economy. Burdensome regulations do very little to solve the problems they were invented for. Worse, they impede economic growth. The best thing government can do for an economy is to set the framework and get out of the way. Lastly, we need to reform our no-fault auto insurance system. Until we can make auto insurance affordable in Michigan, businesses will continue to pick other states to locate or expand their businesses in.

4. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: Michigan's citizens should be able to see what donations are being given to the candidate toward their election, and the laws currently require that; however, existing campaign finance law is extremely extensive. Due to the sheer volume of regulations, these laws are very difficult to be complied with. Laws should be just, fair and applied equally for all. Consistent with our constitution, only legal citizens should be able to vote, and there should be a process in place to protect our citizens from effectively being disenfranchised when we allow non-qualified people vote.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

A: Poverty in the upper peninsula is significant. The increase in costs that would result from a Line 5 elimination would create life-threatening situations for many low income residents, especially the elderly. Enbridge should be allowed to twin their pipeline span with a newer line so that energy can still traverse the Great Lakes, allowing the transfer of energy while also allowing for an improved transmission process. This is significantly safer than other potential, and historically more likely hazards from other forms of transmission, via boat, rail and truck.

6. JUSTICE: What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

A: I don't believe "justice" needs a modifier. Justice should be served equally to all our citizenry.

ADAM DREHER



Website: <http://www.adamdreher.com>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/adam4senate>

Twitter: twitter.com/adamdreher

Occupation / Current Position: Attorney

Education: JD Michigan State University College of Law; BA Eastern Michigan University

Qualifications / Experience: Dedicated to public service. Served as a Cavalry Scout in the United States Army. Then represented the People of the State of Michigan as an assistant prosecuting attorney.

Questions:

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

A: My three top priorities are public education, our state's infrastructure, and ethics in Lansing. Fixing our public education starts with increasing benefits provided to our state's teachers, but also by reorganizing our charter school system to increase accountability and transparency. Our roads and bridges need a serious investment instead of the usual "bare minimum" just to get by. I would address ethics in Lansing by expanding FOIA, and curtailing the amount of money pumped into the legislative process.

2. EDUCATION: What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

A: I fully support early childhood education and establishing regulations our charter system would need to follow before someone could set up a school. We have to reevaluate how we're funding our public schools, and ensure that the monies put aside for education stay with public education. I would also propose requiring charter schools to obtain permission from the local ISD before opening a school within their boundaries with guidance on only allowing charters that supplement public education instead of replacing it. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we have to take care of our teachers to attract the best talent.

3. ECONOMY: What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

A: If nothing else, Amazon taught us that you cannot attract business if you do not have the infrastructure to support business. Attracting people to our state starts with improving our schools, roads, and bridges. Instead of answering the question of jobs by focusing on what will likely benefit business, we should focus on what will benefit people. Ultimately that will attract people to our state, and also keep the people in our state from leaving.

4. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: Campaign finance has become the scariest aspect of politics I've noticed thus far. Money can be shelled into a PAC, which is then allowed unlimited contributions to any candidate. I would propose changing our campaign finance laws to making reporting more transparent, frequent, and require specific disclosures of PAC money. I would also require candidates to disclose the amount they've spent more frequently. In terms of voting rights, our state should aspire to have 100% turnout at every election by making it easier for people to vote. That means no excuse absentee, early voting, and same day registration.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

A: Line 5 needs to be shut down. There is too much that could go wrong with the pipeline that no one can see, which was built before the Mackinac Bridge. The biggest change I would propose is to make the DEQ more independent from the governor's office. The benefits of having a clean environment becomes skewed when it is too close to politics. This would allow the DEQ to be focused on what is best for the environment, not what's best for the governor. A major investment needs to happen in clean renewable energy to keep Michigan competitive. This investment would increase jobs while decreasing pollution in Michigan.

6. JUSTICE: What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

A: It all starts with increasing access to the ballot box and practicing the golden rule. Once we have a government that is more reflective of our population, then we can start having a government that also protects each segment equally. That practice in the legislature will start to translate across the state, and eventually we'll have a society that does not focus on gender or race in determining worth. I would also support increasing the Attorney General's civil rights division to ensure every resident of Michigan is able to speak with a public attorney if needed.

ERIC BORREGARD



Website: ericborregard.nationbuilder.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/EricBorregardMIStateSenate/>

Occupation / Current Position: Eric owns EB Graphics LLC a multimedia company & teaches K-12 in Livingston & Washtenaw Co.

Education: Eric graduated from Madonna University Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's degree in Broadcasting and Cinema Arts and has Associates degree in Applied Science from Oakland Community College

Qualifications / Experience: Small business owner for 25 years, experienced in managing production art groups in automotive logistics and military publications.

Worked in aerospace industry as Sr. Illustrator for Williams International. Elected Vice Chair of SWOCC's Public Access Committee in Farmington Hills 2003, where he worked preserving local public access TV, Odyssey of the Mind coach, Chair Washtenaw Co. Greens

Questions:

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

A: Lead poisoning is epidemic in Michigan because of both parties negligence. We need leadership, we need funding and mobilization. We needed a statewide emergency declared 3 years ago. We also need a ban on the cutting of trees and the mowing of grassland that are not in agricultural use, a recreational necessity or a transportation hazard. Our state and world are environmentally degraded and the planet is dying, we must give the generations to come a reasonable chance. I will also submit legislation to lower the voting age in Michigan to 16 years of age.

2. EDUCATION: What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?

A: Centralized micromanagement hasn't improved Michigan's schools; some districts are now consistently the worst in the nation. Michigan's standardized testing has taken us to a place where the best grade is always a C, enforced by a lax system of top down State standards. Michigan State standards are unsupportive of the efforts of teachers, who are the front line of any system of education. Less and less funding has also not worked; therefore I believe there needs to be a huge increase in funding. To accomplish this I would like levied a 10 cent a gallon tax on diesel fuel.

3. ECONOMY: What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?

A: I would institute the Green Party's New Deal; it calls for an economic system that is based on a combination of private businesses, decentralized democratic cooperatives, publicly owned enterprises, and alternative economic structures. Collectively, this system puts human and ecological needs alongside profits to measure success, and maintains accountability to communities. The legalization of marijuana in the state can be the basis for a number of new industries beside tourism. Hemp fibers and stalks are used in clothing, construction materials, paper, plastic composites, and more than 50,000 other uses.

4. ELECTIONS: What state policies do you support regarding campaign funding and voting rights?

A: I would like to see a ban on all corporate and PAC donations to campaigns, only individuals could donate a maximum of 100 dollars to any campaign. Broadcasters would be required to provide free air time and public debates to all candidates. I also support IRV voting. In the wake of the Parkland school massacre my campaign is supporting a Youth Suffrage movement in Michigan. Students should be allowed to improve the safety of their schools by democratic means so I support legislation that will lower the voting age in Michigan to 16 years of age.

5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

A: I favor using the Michigan economic development corporation to help the state transition from a fossil fuel based economy to 100% renewables; based on wind, solar, geothermal and hydro by 2030. I support the "Let Ban Fracking in Michigan Ballot Initiative" a ban on all drilling, storage and transportation of fracked gas in the Michigan. Line 5 needs to be shut down and never replaced. The dumping of raw sewage, phosphorus, nitrogen fertilizer, oil products, road tars, road salts and PFAS need to be banned, an emergency ordered signed to clean-up our waters and policing focused on all those responsible.

6. JUSTICE: What policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice in our state?

A: All citizens should be guaranteed minimum income of 12 thousand dollars a year, the minimum wage raised to 15 dollars an hour. I support reparation for people of African ancestry whose family members were held in chattel slavery. I they have a legitimate claims to reparations including monetary compensation for centuries of human rights violations, including the Transatlantic slave trade is now recognized by the United Nations as a "crime against humanity." I support an end to "the War on Drugs" which is really a war on race and young people.

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