

Michigan State Senate District 34

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)

JON BUMSTEAD, Republican



Website: www.BumsteadforSenate.com

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

Occupation / Current Position: Owner of Bumstead Construction

Education: Newaygo High School Newaygo County Career Tech Center Building Trades Program

Qualifications / Experience: State Representative for the 100th District 2011-2016

Questions:

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

A: ♣ As the former Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee I believe that it is vital that we continue to pay down Michigan's long-term debt so that it is not left to burden future generations. ♣ Michigan must continue to lower the tax burden for families and businesses. Our national and state economies have turned around because of wise tax policy strategies and it is important that we prioritize the needs of families and job providers. ♣ As the owner of my own construction company, I am supportive of an increased emphasis on skilled trades education and training.

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 am supportive of providing quality options for students and putting more of an emphasis on career technical education. ♣ I consistently voted for increased funding for public schools and worked to ensure that long-term debt was paid down to free up more money for the classroom.

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

A: ♣ I am supportive of ensuring that Michigan has a competitive and friendly business environment that will attract job providers. It is dangerous and expensive for Michigan to use incentives that pick and choose winners as opposed to treating all companies equally.

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

A: ♣ It is imperative that our elections are conducted securely and I would support policies that protect the integrity of our voting systems in Michigan.

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: ♣ As an avid outdoorsmen and sportsmen, I have always worked hard to promote conservation efforts and would continue to do so in the state senate. I am a supporter of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund which helps with land conservation and preservation efforts as well as developing land that is open and available to all Michigan residents. ♣ Clean water is vital for Michigan families. I will work with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality on programs that ensure that families won't have to worry about the water that they drink.

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

A: ♣ Everyone in Michigan should be treated equally no matter of their race or their social status. I believe that improving the economy and ensuring that there are quality jobs for every person that wants one is important. I will support polices that provide training and education to those who need it to be successful in the workforce.

POPPY SIAS-HERNANDEZ, Democrat



Website: www.votepoppy.com

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

Occupation / Current Position: Consultant-PoppyConsults Coaching and consulting with human services organizations

Education: Western Michigan University MA-Organizational Leadership University of California Berkeley BA-Literature College of Marin AA-Liberal Arts

Qualifications / Experience: I am not a professional or career politician. My experience is deep in community activism. For more than 15 years I have supported Michigan youth and families in making healthy choices. My skills include being a certified Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist, HIV Test Counselor, certified addiction professional and a master trainer in Adverse Childhood Experience.

Questions:

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

A: • Quality Public Health • Quality Public School • Quality Jobs Health, education and employment are the very pillars of 21st century society. All three require enduring commitments to insure strong families in Michigan. Health care must be available to all residents-replacing lost coverage is essential to everyone's health and welfare. Full school funding, including pre-K must be expanded and maintained. The continued erosion of collective bargaining and prevailing wage must end-such practices endangers the economic security of all families.

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: The Great Start Readiness Program is Michigan's nationally recognized Pre-K Program-State funding must be protect. I will support the Early Literacy Program aimed at 3rd grade students. The Individuals with Disability Education Act requires our full attention. We need to see what is working well in special education and to identify what needs improvement. Michigan Early College and High School Dual Enrolled programs provide opportunities for more than than 20,000 students, particularly for 1st generation college students.

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

A: Michigan currently has a dearth of employment available. We are lacking skilled workers, thus inhibiting our ability to compete in the 21st century economy. One of my goals upon being seated in the Michigan Senate is to ensure appointment to the Michigan Competitive Committee. I look forward to sponsoring increased job training bills, including a focus upon skilled trades. We must continue to invest in our students at all levels. I fully support the efforts and results of Michigan's Workforce Development Talent Investment Agency.

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

A: The right to participate in our democracy through voting is a basic right of all eligible citizens. Everyone deserves equal access to the ballot; election integrity must be maintained and secured. We as a society must safeguard against encroachments upon our fundamental right to vote! Gerrymandering is a threat to our democracy. Voters must select politicians-politicians must not be allowed to select voters. Democracy is not for sale. Common-sense campaign finance restraints including complete transparency and a limitation of Super-PACS influence. We must expose and resist voter suppression in all forms.

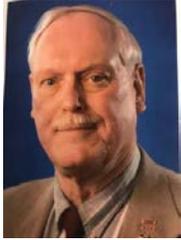
5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What actions or policies do you support to protect Michigan's water, air and land for current and future generations, while meeting the state's energy needs? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of Enbridge Pipeline 5.

A: Access to clean water is a human right. In 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency conduct a complete review of Michigan's drinking water program. The EPA recommended that Michigan increase both funding and staffing resources, improve electronic data reporting and management, and ensure its program appropriately implements and complies with all aspects of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Line 5 Pipeline has the potential to alter the entire Great Lakes Eco-System. Propane alternatives must be explored before a large scale rupture. I support a complete halt, inspection and review of Pipeline 5.

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

A: The Michigan Department of Civil Rights represents the very best of our state, serving to educate and motivate our citizens to prevent discrimination in all forms. I fully support their various community training programs including disability, sexual harassment, housing discrimination and hate crimes. Michigan's commitment to inclusion is inspiring. For more than 15 years I have supported families in making healthy choices as a family consultant. Social Justice featuring diversity and equality begins with safe families experiencing equal access to education.

MAX RIEKSE, Libertarian



Occupation / Current Position: Retired Michigan Public School Teacher; 23 years
Retired Lieutenant Colonel; U.S. Army; 32 years.

Qualifications / Experience: B.A. University of South Florida; Political Science & International Relations. Two M.A.'s from Western Michigan University in Political Science: International Relations; History; & Education. K-12 Michigan Teaching Certificate; Western Michigan University. VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Life Member; & past VFW Commander. Vietnam & Iraq War Veteran.

Questions:

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

A: Lowering home property taxes for senior (American) citizens; eliminating the Republican pension tax on Senior (American) citizens. Eliminating the Michigan Income tax for American citizens.

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: Support specially trained armed teachers in all Michigan Public School K-12 & Public University classrooms; Max is a Life Member of the NRA. Ban all illegal aliens from attending Public schools; Make all legal aliens pay to attend our Public Schools.

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

A: Ban all trucks on Michigan roads driven by Mexican nationals. Pass a Michigan legislative bill that repeal's 16" Amendment - Federal Income tax & abolish the IRS. Lower property taxes on all active farmland.

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

A: Eliminate Michigan's winner take all Presidential Electoral system & replace it with a fair & proportional electoral system based on the votes of the top three candidates i.e. Republican, Democrat and Libertarian; that way most everyone's vote counts for President.

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: Eliminate Line number 5 under the Straits of Mackinaw ASAP

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

A: Priority admission to Michigan H.S. students to MI tax supported Universities; then foreign students. Repeal all laws creating "crimes" without Victims. Eliminate anti-4th Amendment local & state government asset forfeitures laws & mandate Due Process in a court of law be part of the entire forfeiture process. The Libertarian Party is all about Freedom; the U.S. Constitution; & our Bill of Rights guarantying Individual rights for all Americans. No tax dollars for abortion for any reason; Colonel Max is Pro-Life.

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