

Michigan State Representative District 8

2 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: 2 years Vote for ONE (1)

VALERIE R PARKER, Republican

Website: www.valereiparker4staterepresentative.com



Occupation / Current Position: Full time Student at Eastern Michigan University.

Education: Masters in African American Studies. Currently pursuing a Masters in School, Society and Violence (SSV) at Eastern Michigan University.

Qualifications / Experience: I was born and raised in Detroit MI a product of DPS. I worked with Congressman John Conyers as a field representative in 2012. I am a homeowner, precinct delegate for (3) terms and has been a grassroots community activist in District 8 for 8 yrs. I have taught in the surrounding schools as a substitute teacher for 6 yrs collecting data from the youths. I want to help my community transform.

Questions:

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

A: 1. Vocational Training for the youths which President Trump in his State of the Union Address told Blacks in Detroit to do. 2. Small Business Opportunities can become more attractive due to the President Trumps new business tax laws. 3. Homeownership in the Brightmoor community under the Brightmoor Alliance "land use" plan.

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: Children have to learn how to learn. Children need to come to school preparing to learn and not socialization with their peers as the reason for attending school. High School students have to become college ready not only by being test but by learning study habits and note taking skills. The youths are not prepared for the rapid changes occurring in our society lacking in skilltrade. They have to learn how to become inform and seek out information. Youth are arrows and should be given proper instructions to make good decisions. Teachers can only teach and instruct. The villagers' makes the difference.

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

A: I do not think that giving individuals who lack skill-trade and higher academic learning \$15.00 a hour as a starting point is good for the economy nor the growth of small businesses. If individuals with no post-secondary education can make \$15.00 as a starting point than what does the individual earn who as financial debt due to obtaining higher education by attending college? We must be fair and realistic.

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

A: All individuals who can prove their identify should be able to vote. Campaign funding is regulated and has watchful eyes around it. President Johnson made it possible for Blacks to vote. All individuals have the Constitutional right to vote. There are rules in place to protect the voting process. There is always room for improvement.

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 do not have much knowledge to make a decision but I do know that Flint and Detroit have water problems. There has to be regulations put in place to keep a watchful eye on our environment for the

future generations. The government must be people concern and not profit concern for the industries who have to capability to poison our water and air. The Enbridge Pipeline is effecting a culture of people whose homeland and environment will become different. I understand expansion and redevelopment but when do we say no to money and yes to the people.

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

A: Knowledge and information is the base factor. Youth believe that marijuana is legal due to their lack of knowledge and facts. They do not realize that employers have the to right to drug test and not hire them for smoking marijuana. Cocaine for whites received lessor sentence than crack for African Americans. Detroit, historically, and currently is practicing racial segregation and exclusion according to African Americans. Mayor Cobo from 1950-1957 showed the views of the city which has not changed. The question is "where do we go from here"? There is no need of placing blame just be a part of the game.

SHERRY GAY-DAGNOGO, Democrat

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

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