

## **Michigan State Representative District 48**

### **2 Candidates on the November 6, 2018 ballot**

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

**Qualifications:** State Representatives may serve a maximum of three full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 110 State House districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

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

### **AL HARDWICK, Republican**



**Website:** allenhardwick.com

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/hardwickforstaterep/>

**Twitter:** @realtruepatriot

**Occupation / Current Position:** IT professional, Webmaster, Fraud Investigator

**Education:** Paint Valley High School - Bainbridge, OH, Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center - Chillicothe, OH

**Qualifications / Experience:** Political activist and past candidate for MI 5th Congressional District in 2014 and 2016

#### **Questions:**

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

**A:** 1. Education Reform - Open more opportunities for trade schools, bring back skilled trades, home economics and make personal finance a required course. 2. Advance Small Business Growth - Remove burdensome and unnecessary regulations, lower tax rates across the board and encourage on the job training for those less skilled. 3. Accountability in Spending - No lobbyist or family driven contracts, competitive bidding making sure there are no costs overruns.

**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:** Open more opportunities for trade schools, bring back skilled trades, home economics and make personal finance a required course. Make it easier for pre-school programs to help with early child development preparing children for school. Mentoring for children who are struggling.

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

**A:** I support many plans of our President including removing unneeded and burdensome regulations that are not effective. Education reform is needed including bringing back the trade schools, home economics and personal finance. Opening up opportunities for people who haven't finished High School to do so to have a better chance at job advancement. Accountability in all forms of government is desperately needed, which in turn will make it possible to lower taxes. Overhaul of the no-fault law so we all can benefit from lower insurance rates. Currently Michigan is almost twice the national average in auto insurance rates.

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

**A:** Laws for campaign financing are pretty strict now. There are set limits regarding financing which are reasonable. Everyone should have the right to vote but also be a citizen. I am grateful to have straight party ticket voting removed as that policy breeds uneducated voters. Voting is a civic duty that should not be taken lightly. Too many are elected because of the D or R and not the content of their character.

**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:** We should always strive to develop clean renewable energy sources. As technology increases, those sources will be developed by the private sector. Until that happens, we need to utilize the current energy sources. As we progress we should slowly move away from fossil fuels to cleaner sources but only when it's cost efficient and feasible. We should focus on our infrastructure allocating the funds needed to upgrade and maintain it. The Enbridge Pipeline just like all pipelines should be evaluated on a regular basis and the needed improvements made to make sure it stays safe and doesn't pose a risk to our Great Lakes.

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

**A:** There is so much talk about justice but many times it's one sided or unbalanced. We have so many groups who use the 14th Amendment to push an agenda of injustice. It was created for one purpose, to give the freed slaved equal rights. There are many forms of injustice but we should always strive to make sure everyone has equal rights and not special rights. No one should be above the law including, law enforcement, politicians or those in the upper class. No position of power or financial status should make any difference when it comes to the law. A world without personal responsibility will lead to more injustice.

**SHERYL Y KENNEDY, Democrat**



**Website:** [www.electsherylkennedy.com](http://www.electsherylkennedy.com)

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/electkennedy2018/>

**Twitter** @electkennedy18

**Occupation / Current Position:** Principal, Geisler Middle School, Walled Lake Consolidated Schools

**Education:** BA - Seattle Pacific University; MAT - Marygrove College; Ed.S., Ph.D - Oakland University.

**Qualifications / Experience:** 30 Year Public Educator; Lecturer - Master of Public Administration, UM-Flint; Education policy advocate.

Questions:

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

**A:** Education - Our public schools are in a human resource crisis. We are no longer attracting young people into the profession, and talented veteran teachers are leaving the profession in droves. We need to invest in our schools funding them appropriately to provide reasonable student/teacher ratios, counseling, social work, transportation, and special education resources. Infrastructure - We need to have a long-term strategic plan as a state, and fund the infrastructure needs appropriately. Labor - The best way to support our disappearing middle class is to connect them to skilled trades and labor.

**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:** Replace the M-Step with ongoing and actionable growth assessments. Provide funding to support programs that have demonstrated results in closing achievement gaps including: Pre-K, small group reading and math instruction for K-12, public health, counseling and social work services in every school. Connect students in their junior and senior years to college, skilled trades or work opportunities to bridge the gap to post-secondary education. Increase opportunities for after-school transportation so more students can take advantage of athletics and after-school activities. Provide free community college/skill training

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

**A:** Michigan is full of hard-working people who work minimum wage jobs. The majority of MI families try to live on \$24,000 or less for a family of four. By connecting skills to workers, and workers to skilled trades jobs, we can move these families into the middle class in short-order. When these families are making appropriate wages, they will once again become consumers and tax payers, which will, in turn, support our Michigan economy, which will increase the need for better jobs. My experience with public education paired with my relationship to skilled labor will allow me to create a more prosperous community.

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

**A:** I believe we should make it as easy as possible to vote. I believe we should eliminate gerrymandering, and draw districts based on regular, geographical boundaries. I believe we should eliminate laws related to Citizens United, so that ALL campaign contributions are made public. I believe that every person running for political office should be required to share personal information including tax returns, academic credentials, and work history as recorded by social security. PAC organizations should have hard caps, and campaigns should have a limit to how much they can earn from PAC money.

**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 am endorsed by the Sierra Club because I believe that especially in Michigan, we must protect our most important resource - fresh water. I support investment in science to support renewable energy of all kinds - solar, wind and bio-fuels. I believe that Pipeline 5 should be closed down immediately, and safer methods of fluids transport be studied and implemented. Much of Michigan's citizens live on well-water. This water should be regularly and inexpensively analyzed for safety. Finally, a long-range plan should be created within and between all Michigan Departments that affect natural resources.

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

**A:** As a middle school principal in a school with nearly 30 languages, immigrant, minority and economically disadvantaged students, I have dedicated my life to close achievement gaps, improve daily attendance, and minimize the school-to-prison pipeline by using alternative methods of discipline whenever appropriate. My school has regularly out-performed expected goals by the State. However, education can only help a citizen if they then have access to work through a complete mass-transit system and safe infrastructure. I would look for geographic and social barriers to employment and health access, as well as education.

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