

Michigan State Representative District 51

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)

MIKE MUELLER, Republican



Website: www.Mueller4StateRep.com

Facebook: <http://mueller4statehouse.com>

Occupation / Current Position: Deputy Sheriff- Road Patrol

Education: 1992 Linden High School. 1999 B.S. Eastern Michigan University, with honors. 1999 Washtenaw County Police Academy

Qualifications / Experience: I am a husband, father, U.S. Navy veteran, deputy sheriff, farmer and small business owner. My career paths and life experience gives me the ability to relate with many people in the district and state. I make real life decisions that affect peoples lives everyday. This has taught me how to communicate effectively and efficiently. All the qualities needed to be a representative.

Questions:

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

A: No Fault Auto Reform. Reduce the cost for Michigan citizens by creating a fraud authority, place limits on cost of family attendant care, and make sure the settlement of claims gets to the injured party instead of being tied up in legal fees. Opiate Crisis. As a police officer I am concerned with the opiate crises. Making sure law enforcement and the medical community along with community mental health all work together to combat the issue. Roads. More money needs to be spent to fix our roads. Responsible spending and proper revenue sharing along with proper use of the gas tax.

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: Public education is the number one budget issue in the state of Michigan. Public education is a high priority for the people of my district and will be a priority of mine. Accountability with objective measurement of teacher and school district performance so the parents know how well their child, building and district is performing. Support education policies that empower parents to make choices for the betterment of their child's education. Support career and technical training for students to train them for skilled trades and occupations to prepare them for the work world, regardless if they go onto college.

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

A: The most important thing we can do is keep a balanced budget, keep taxes low, limited regulations and creates the conditions for the private sector to prosper and create jobs for the citizens of Michigan. Michigan economy is growing and we must do what is necessary to keep it prosperous, not reverting back to the, "Lost Decade".

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

A: I am firmly committed to maintain the integrity of our elections and supporting the voting rights of every citizen. I support photo identification requirements to prevent fraud in voting. Every time a non-voter, votes a citizen's vote is disenfranchised and makes our elections vulnerable.

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 believe every Michigan citizens wants and deserves clean air, land and water. Our natural resources must be protected now and in the future. I also believe in private property rights and the rights of people to use their land as they choose. We must strike a proper balance between the stewardship of our natural resources and the rights of our property owners.

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

A: I have been a police officer for 18 years and uphold the laws of the country and our state. I am bound by the ethics of my profession and will support the proper training for public service employees so the rights of every citizen are preserved.

DAVID E LOSSING, Democrat



Website: www.votedavidlossing.net

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Lossing51st/>

Twitter: twitter.com/Lossing51st

Occupation / Current Position: Ph.D. candidate, Indiana State University

Education: Ph.D. candidate, Indiana State University Ed.S., UM-Flint M.P.A., UM-Flint B.A., UM-Flint Associates of Arts, Mott Comm. College MPLP Fellowship, MSU

Qualifications / Experience: Former Mayor, City of Linden (2004-2016); Former Linden City Councilor, City of Linden (1998-2006); Past President, Michigan Municipal League (2012-2013); Former Director of Government Relations, UM-Flint, 2006-2016; Former Associate Director State Outreach, UM-Ann Arbor, 2000-2006; Former Regional Representative, U.S. Senator Carl Levin (MI) 1991-2000.

Questions:

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

A: 1. Restore \$8 billion of revenue sharing to Michigan communities that has been cut by the State over the past 16 years. 2. Work with our local school districts to create a voluntary balanced calendar program in partnership with the State. Three phases: planning grant to determine viability, capitol outlay funding to upgrade the school building(s), a per-pupil funding increase to cover transportation costs and intersession programming. 3. A new funding program for Michigan's high school seniors called the "Michigan Commitment" to be used for trade schools, two-year and four-year college degrees.

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: A voluntary approach to a balanced calendar may assist with student's academic retention between grade levels. There are three phases: 1) a planning grant to determine the fit with a school district; 2) capitol outlay funding to upgrade the school building(s); 3) an increase in per-pupil funding to cover intersession planning programs, transportation costs, and other needed resources. A new funding program for Michigan's high school seniors called the "Michigan Commitment" to be used for trade schools, two-year and four-year college degrees. It would cover the "last dollar" funding gap for students to finish.

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

A: As we've learned lessons from the decision by Amazon and the United States Army not to locate their next corporate headquarters or futures command in Michigan, is because we lack mass transit and a highly educated workforce. Which is understandable based on our history as a manufacturing state. However, the "low skill, high wage" jobs are being replaced by "high skill, high wage" jobs and Michigan is lacking in creating and workforce that is highly educated. Michigan needs to be more like Minnesota and less like Mississippi.

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

A: We need to do more in providing more opportunities for our residents to vote, not less. For one, no reason absentee voting should be law and it will be something I will work towards. Michigan needs more transparency, not less, in where funding is coming from during our campaigns. The Supreme Court decision on Citizens United opened the floodgates of "dark money" into our elections. Any and all expenditures should be reported so the citizens of Michigan know exactly what groups are attempting to influence our elections.

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 believe that the existence of Line 5 has outlived its usefulness and its rupture would forever decimate the Great Lakes for future generations. The owner, Enbridge, has not lived up to their responsibilities of making sure that the pipeline is safe and secure. It's time for the State of Michigan to step up and enforce the easement agreement and close down the pipeline. As a state, we need to be creative to expand alternative energy sources including solar, wind and geothermal while offering tax credits for investments.

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

A: Five years ago, the City of Linden passed a non-discrimination ordinance and became the 27th municipality to protect its citizens from discrimination. The State of Michigan needs to amend the Elliot-Larsen act to finally provide legal remedies to protect citizens from discrimination. Additionally, It's clear that we need some common-sense laws to help prevent the gun violence that has been allowing our children to be shot and killed and tearing apart families in our country. All Michiganders should have the freedom to live safely in their homes, schools, work, and churches.

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