

## **Michigan State Representative District 57**

### **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)**

### **BRONNA KAHLE, Republican**



**Website:** BronnaKahleForStateRep.com

**Facebook:** <http://BronnaKahle>

**Occupation / Current Position:** Former Senior Center Director; Former Small Business Owner; Currently, State Rep for District 57

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and MBA from Baker College

**Qualifications / Experience:** As a wife, mom, active community volunteer, marathon runner, and former senior center director and small business owner, I have the work ethic, common sense, and respect & care for others to advance solutions and solve problems to keep our state moving in the right direction and to help make life better for the people of Lenawee County and Michigan..

#### Questions:

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

**A:** 1) Lowering auto insurance rates. Michigan has the highest rates in the nation, which puts a strain on family budgets. We can lower them by cracking down on fraud and expanding consumer choice. 2) Encouraging economic growth and job creation, which leads to higher incomes and more opportunities. We achieve that by supporting skilled trades training and education, improving Michigan's infrastructure, and common sense regulatory and tax policy. 3) Combating the drug addiction epidemic by raising awareness, enhancing treatment options, and working with families and organizations to develop and implement solutions.

**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:** Education is crucial for an individual to reach their full potential. I supported record funding for education, which includes closing the gap between the highest and lowest funded schools by raising up the lowest funded schools. Skilled trades training and dual enrollment are important options, so students can gain the knowledge they need to secure a quality career. I will continue working to improve educational opportunities and outcomes.

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

**A:** Michigan's economy has dramatically improved over the last ten years. Over 500,000 jobs have been created, incomes are up, people are moving back to Michigan, and unemployment is very low. I am working to continue the momentum by expanding skilled trades training, reducing the tax burden, lowering auto insurance rates, continuing to dedicate record funding for education, and increasing resources to fix our roads.

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

**A:** Campaign finance records are available online, so citizens can review who donated to my campaign and the campaigns of other legislators. I support the law requiring this transparency. Regarding elections, every citizen should exercise their right to vote, to ensure their voice is heard. If someone is being denied or if fraud is canceling out lawful citizens' votes, then this must be addressed, particularly in our legal system.

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**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 support protecting our Great Lakes and natural resources. A comprehensive energy approach, which includes renewables, will allow for a long-term, sustainable energy supply, rooted here in Michigan. Options for protecting the Straits of Mackinac are being developed. I look forward to a solution that protects our waters and ensures a safe energy supply.

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

**A:** My focus is expanding opportunities for everyone to use their God-given talents to be a blessing for their family and community. This is why I support education and training, combating the drug addiction epidemic, lowering auto insurance rates, and regulatory and tax policies that strengthen our economy. All citizens should be treated equally under the law and policies that expand hope and opportunity build a brighter future.

## **AMBER PEDERSEN, Democrat**



**Website:** <http://amberdpedersen4mihouse.com/index.html>

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/Amber-D-Pedersen-for-MI-House-of-Representatives-District-57-184121395567918/>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/AmberDPedersen1](https://twitter.com/AmberDPedersen1)

**Occupation / Current Position:** Adrian Public Schools Elementary Spanish Teacher

**Education:** AA 2003, BA 2008-Siena Heights Uni- Child Development, Montessori, Spanish Post-bacc-Eastern MI Uni-Spanish MA 2013-Siena Heights Uni- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Lang

**Qualifications / Experience:** Raised 2 daughters as a single parent while perusing higher education. Member of MEA, confident public speaker and raised to be in service to my community first. Volunteer with Needlelane Farms, collaborate cultural outreach with local Hispanic community, volunteer with Adrian Public Schools music boosters. Have been teaching for fifteen years.

### Questions:

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

**A:** As a teacher, my top priority is repairing and rebuilding our education system. I have seen, first hand, the damaging effects of the past 10 years of education legislation and we can do better. We were a top 10 state for education and we can be again. My next priority is rebuilding our infrastructure. Our neighbors agree, that this is one of the top issues for everyone in Michigan. We are jeopardizing our safety and squandering our household budgets due to our crumbling infrastructure. My third priority is a host of worker protections.

**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 a teacher and early childhood professional by choice. Because I value children and see their potential every day, I will work to fully fund our schools, and respect educators as the professionals they are. In the same vein, we need to set up our children for success with accessible early childhood programs through career readiness and I will work tirelessly for that. Finally, no education tax dollars should be charter school operator profit. Our children need all those funds invested in schools, not Wall St. for-profit management companies.

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

**A:** I have 2 daughters who have graduated and struck out on their own in the past 2 years. They, and others their age, deserve an education that leads to a viable career. One daughter took a semester to become an EMT, with plans to advance to paramedic. My other daughter is on a wait-list to become an electrician. I will work to build these, so our residents have non-college options for a career. I want to reinstate Prevailing Wage repeal Right to Work (for less). These devalue the work of our neighbors, by lowering wages for skilled tradespeople and giving non-union employees the right to benefits without paying dues.

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

**A:** Voting should be an easy, accessible process. It should be simple to both register to vote and cast a ballot. Michigan should have same-day registration, no-reason absentee voting, and consider adopting vote by mail. Gerrymandering practices unfairly distribute districts in such a way that our less privileged voices are unheard, and minority voters are often left behind. I believe that running for office is prohibitively expensive, and that this encourages special interests to make their voices heard by funding candidates. I support public campaign funding, so candidates are free to run on only their positions.

**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 need to harness the natural energy of the wind and sun. We have the manufacturing capacity to build the infrastructure for wind and solar power, in plentiful supply here. This would promote jobs, protect the environment, and fuel our state. We have a remarkable resource in our fresh water, and a remarkable responsibility to protect it. We need to continue to innovate biofuels. Our vibrant agriculture community, with our top-tier research universities, need our support to find alternatives to fossil fuels to power our all our needs. To Enbridge Pipeline 5, we need to require Enbridge to immediately replace Line 5.

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

**A:** I taught in Detroit Public Schools and currently teach in Adrian. For years, I have witnessed families struggle to have the same opportunities as their neighbors across town or in the suburbs. I will advocate for a livable wage, fair and reasonable housing availability, healthcare for all residents, and education sufficient to career readiness. I will work to break down the barriers to gainful employment by supporting public transportation, child care, and training for those who need it. I will work for all state employees, especially everyone involved in criminal justice, to have on-going anti-bias training.

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