

Michigan State Representative District 65

3 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)

SARAH LIGHTNER, Republican



Website: Electsarahlighner.com

Facebook: <http://@LIGHTNER4STATERP>

Occupation / Current Position: County Commissioner and small business owner

Education: Paralegal Lansing Community College

Qualifications / Experience: Small business owner/paralegal/ County Commissioner

Questions:

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

A: Criminal Justice Reform, Promoting agriculture, and helping small businesses

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 expanding vocational programs for kids who choose not to get four year degrees to help them achieve good paying jobs.

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

A: Reducing the regulations faced by small businesses and creating a job friendly environment.

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

A: - no response -

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 a sportsman, I am in favor of clean air and water and would promote conservations efforts to continue protecting our outdoor heritage.

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

A: I would like to continue to review data from stakeholders and pursue appropriate criminal justice reforms.

TERRI McKINNON, Democrat



Website: voteterrimckinnon.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Terri-McKinnon-for-State-Representative-555439674813713>

Twitter: twitter.com/terrimckinnon65

Occupation / Current Position: Systems administrator working with nonprofits throughout Southeast/central Michigan

Education: Medical transcription certificate Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Accounting certificate Washtenaw Community College
Computer networking degree Washtenaw Community College

Qualifications / Experience: I have served in management/leadership roles in every career I've had working my way up through my skills with team building and process improvement. I have consistently sought to improve my education and experience with training and experience. I have volunteered with organizations as diverse as the boy and girl scouts to the local Pride Center.

Questions:

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

A: It is past time to invest in our roads and bridges, improve our water systems, expand broadband access throughout the state. We need to invest in our public schools. Strong public schools create opportunity for our families. The people of this state deserve to have safe, affordable access to healthcare. Instead of restricting access to programs like medicaid, we should be increasing access. We need to support local community health centers in areas where healthcare is not easily accessible. Investing in our state will provide opportunity for growth and prosperity in our state.

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: We need to properly fund our public schools and pay our teachers well. Investing in our public schools will allow us to lower class sizes, and provide the resources our students need including new textbooks and technology. We can increase opportunities for our kids to pursue vocational training. We can insure that everyone has the opportunity for secondary education including vocational training or apprenticeships and make our students aware of opportunities. We can strengthen our state by making education a priority.

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

A: We have a shortage of farm workers, teachers, and skilled trade employees in this state. Encouraging young people to pursue these opportunities and providing the training they need to do this should be a priority. We can also create many well paying jobs by rebuilding our infrastructure, expanding broadband, and transitioning to renewable energy sources. We need to make sure we have the workers to do this with training opportunities. These will increase opportunities for our local small businesses to compete and attract new business to our state.

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

A: We should be expanding voting access. This includes no reason absentee voting, same day registration, increased polling places, automatic voter registration, audits of election results, and insuring a paper trail for votes cast. I support efforts to change citizens united, as well as opportunities for public financing of campaigns. I also support reforms looking for greater transparency in campaign finance. The biggest issue is making sure that everyone has the opportunity to easily participate in elections and that we trust our election processes. This is the basic necessity of our democratic republic.

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 efforts to transition our state and local communities to renewable energy sources. We also can create good jobs by transitioning to these sources of energy with the proper training available. It is time to shut down line 5 now. We also need to insure that all current pipelines in our state are being properly maintained and evaluated. Protecting our water supply should be a priority in our state for everyone. We must clean up the contaminated waters from PFAS. We should be investing in fixing our water systems to deal with the lead issue throughout our state.

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

A: We should not be privatizing our criminal justice system. I support reformative justice. Ideas include reducing sentencing lengths to reduce costs for minor and nonviolent offenses. We should be restricting the use of solitary confinement. We can simplify the parole process and look at reforming the bail system. Additional ongoing training for our law enforcement professionals. We need to make sure our system is about rehabilitation and promote programs for those returning to society to have good outcomes. Ban the Box. Let's make our communities safer together.

JASON B REES, Libertarian



Website: www.rees4mi.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/rees4MIHOUSE>

Occupation / Current Position: Self employed. Previously, a mathematics professor of nearly 15 years.

Education: B.A.L.A.H. M.S.ED. M.A.Math + 18 credits

Qualifications / Experience: Liberal Arts degree in the Humanities/Philosophy (Means a principled, well reasoned foundation to my political involvement).

Questions:

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

A: Proper application of funding toward roads. Lowering Lansing's influence over our lives through taxation and regulation. Creating an environment of business, technology, and energy innovation. I can achieve all of these through obstruction of new taxes and promoting the reduction of existing ones.

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 support a free market in education as with other goods and services. Vouchers give parents more freedom and allow for specialized schools that cater more appropriately to their students' needs.

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

A: Get Lansing out of the way!

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

A: I support the right of any Michigan citizen to vote.

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 the reduction of tax burden on sustainable energy installations. I would not support government use or confiscation of land for the construction of an oil pipeline.

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

A: I would support any policy that reduces and/or ends the drug war in this state.

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