

Michigan State Representative District 74

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)**

MARK E HUIZENGA, Republican



Website: www.votehuizenga.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/MarkEHuizenga

Occupation / Current Position: Mark Huizenga Systems Consulting, LLC Key Green Solutions, LLC - Partner Mayor - City of Walker

Education: Masters In Management - Aquinas College Bachelor of Arts Degree - Calvin College Michigan Political Leadership Program - MSU

Qualifications / Experience: As a self employed health care consultant, Mark has over 15 years of proven management consulting experience working with hospitals and pharmaceutical companies across the US. Mark is the managing partner for Key Green Solutions a software company which helps hospitals manage energy waste and water. As Mayor, Mark has lead the City of Walker for the past five years.

Questions:

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

A: Jobs for Michigan - I will continue to work on Michigan's comeback by increasing employment opportunities for all West Michigan Workers. Fixing Michigan Roads - As a Mayor, I know first hand about roads and infrastructure. I will work to continue to support high quality construction, common sense practices and increased funding to support local community road projects. Increase transparency in Government - I will be accessible and accountable to all the residents of the 74th district.

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 believe that we must continue to measure the performance of schools, but those metrics must be broad based and allow teachers the latitude to teach those that are falling behind and allow more advance students to exceed. We must continue to support all of the children of the state and give them a positive environment of learning.

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

A: Michigan's economy has continued to grow after the great recession, it is important that we continue to create an environment that facilitates sustainable growth for all sectors. Infrastructure, both above ground such as roads and highways are important, but just as important is the infrastructure underground such as gas, electric, water and sewer. Our aging infrastructure will need to be maintained but we must grow infrastructure to continue our growth. One of the most important, but often neglected aspects is high speed internet - ensuring this critical resource for all residents is critical.

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

A: I support the ensuring that political candidates have equal access to similar opportunities regarding campaign financing. Ever since the landmark case of Citizen's united set the precedent that equates money to speech, campaign finance has been a lightning rod of controversy. The fact of the matter is the highest court in the land made a decision and, until that decision is revisited by the court, we must abide by the statues currently in place. I support current laws as written but I understand people's concerns with those laws and will work with my colleagues in the State Legislature to study the impacts

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 a strong supporter of the environment and protecting our water especially the great lakes is incredibly important. Our energy providers continue to convert to less polluting natural gas for energy generation and renewable energy generation from solar and wind are affordable alternatives. We still have a car economy that is highly dependent upon gasoline - pipelines are the safest, least expensive transportation method - however, line 5 cuts across one of the most sensitive areas of our state. We must work with Enbridge to ensure the pipeline will not fail and that our water resources will be protected.

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

A: Too often in today's world do we judge a book by its cover. Our nation's citizens have learned quite a bit about each other since its inception. We need to continue to promote that learning and better communication among groups that appear to be at odds with one another. Leaders in communities should seek to be bridge builders not bridge demolishers. Groups may not always agree with one another but we are all human and we get only one chance to make the world a better place.

MEAGAN L CARR, Democrat



Website: Voteformeagan.org

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

Occupation / Current Position: Sr Analyst for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Education: Master's in Public Administration - GVSU; PhD Candidate in Public Administration - WMU

Qualifications / Experience: 11+ years working in the healthcare field, and many more doing side projects and volunteering for my community

Questions:

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

A: 1) Environment: Ensure states maintain their rights to set higher standards than the EPA for contaminants in drinking water. 2) Education: Increase funding across the board and eliminate the diversion of public funds to private institutions. 3) Healthcare: Ensure the Medicaid expansion is not rolled back in the State of Michigan, and work on increasing accessibility and affordability of care for all residents.

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: First and foremost we need to increase educational funding across the board. Second we need to cut off taxpayer money being diverted to private institutions. Third, we need to set up programs that encourage high schoolers to go into the trades by promoting trade careers in the schools and offering tuition free community colleges and trade schools for Michigan students.

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

A: Along with offering tuition free community college and trade school for Michigan students, I would also be interested in setting up partnerships with private businesses to encourage apprenticeship programs much like what we see in Germany. The largest issue Michigan's economy faces right now is not having enough talent to attract high paying careers in our state. If we want our economy to improve we need to have a competitive talent base to attract more businesses to our state.

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

A: I fully support the Voters not Politicians movement, and am happy to see this will be on November's ballot. I would like to see a movement towards more power lying in the hands of the voters rather than big money or party interests.

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 think there needs to be more transparency in our government regarding how they are handling contamination and health issues. From the lead filled water in Flint, to the PFAS contaminations in Plainfield Township and Rockford, it has come to light again and again that our government cares more about their own political interests than they do their constituents.

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

A: The biggest justice movement our state could make right now would be to release and expunge the records of all citizens that are currently being incarcerated for marijuana crimes alone. Assuming recreational marijuana usage passes on the November ballot, we need to release inmates whose actions would no longer be considered a crime under the new legislation

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