

## **Michigan State Representative District 79**

### **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)**

### **PAULINE WENDZEL, Republican**



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

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

**Occupation / Current Position:** Product brand development manager at Coloma Frozen Foods promoting Michigan agriculture and tourism.

**Education:** I am an active alumna of both Watervliet High School and Michigan State University, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and Food Industry Management.

**Qualifications / Experience:** I am the former Programs Director at the North Berrien Historical Museum where I educated the community on the importance of Southwest Michigan's heritage, and was an advocate for the community and museum at several local city, township and school board meetings. Additionally, I was the Assistant Deputy Clerk for Bainbridge Township and have a deep understanding of the election process.

#### Questions:

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

**A:** My legislative priorities include fixing Michigan's infrastructure, especially our roads; increasing vocational training opportunities in our schools; and decreasing regulations on Southwest Michigan's farms and small businesses. I will work to find comprehensive solutions that will save taxpayers money and deliver the roads hard-working Michiganders deserve, prepare students for well paying jobs in important jobs that require skilled labor, and cut through bureaucratic red tape to ensure the success and profitability of our job creators.

**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:** Skilled labor is in high demand throughout Southwest Michigan. I believe that we can provide educational and training opportunities to better prepare our students for careers. By recognizing that each student is unique and different and by providing advanced vocational training programs starting in early education we can promote diverse career paths that ensure success for all students, regardless of their ability to attend a university. Ensuring that students have the tools they need to succeed will open them to find opportunities in these good-paying and important fields.

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

**A:** Farms and small businesses are the bedrock of Southwest Michigan and its economy. I grew up on a fourth-generation family farm where I learned the value of hard work and personal responsibility. I will work hard to cut through the red tape that has strangled our family businesses and will help foster an environment where job creators can thrive. I will help work with farms and small businesses to comply with federal regulations rather than impose more unnecessary hurdles to their success and profitability. By helping rather than penalizing these sectors, we will create jobs and maintain economic prosperity.

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

**A:** The right to vote is the most fundamental and sacred right in the democratic process. Ensuring that campaigns are run ethically is vital to preserving a fair and functioning legislature. Without infringing on personal liberties, there should be some oversight regarding campaign funding to guarantee uncorrupt processes. I believe in open and honest government, and that should extend to our elections. Additionally, the State is responsible for providing just voting rights. The State should be helpful rather than a hindrance in securing its citizens accessibility 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:** The oil and natural gas moved on Line 5 is used to heat homes, businesses, fuel vehicles, and power industries critical to social and economic life in Michigan. Renewable energies are important, however currently the majority of the base-load capacity for our energy grid is supplied by oil or natural gas. The Great Lakes also supply a necessary resource and a treasured beauty. It is important that our legislators come to a mutual agreement of ensuring the success and function of Line 5, but doing so in a safe and effective manner that considers long term effects on Michigan's most prized feature.

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

**A:** I will promote policies that provide the most benefit to all those in my constituency and the state of Michigan. In considering legislation, I will make mindful decisions to progress our communities forward in terms of social and racial justice. Encouraging legislation that provides for the opportunity, success, and prosperity without clear racial or social barrier will foster a better community for Michiganders.

## **JOEY B ANDREWS, Democrat**



**Website:** [votejoeyandrews.com](http://votejoeyandrews.com)

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

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

**Occupation / Current Position:** I own a solar installer known as Parasol Solar, and I manage Victory Lube Car Care Center.

**Education:** 2006 - Lake Michigan Catholic 2010 - Carson Newman University BA in Music and BA in History 2013 - Wayne State University of Law Juris Doctorate

### Questions:

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

**A:** My top three priorities are education, the environment, and small business: As a small business owner I see the importance of helping our businesses thrive in Michigan. Solar is one of the largest growing industries, and I am proud to own Parasol Solar which installs solar panels all over Southwest Michigan. As someone that has gone through college, I see the burden that college debt can have on someone. I want to help make college affordable again for all students that wish to further their education. I also want to make sure that local high schools are thriving and setting students up for success.

**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 phase out school of choice, and make sure that all charter schools are playing by the same rules as the public schools. Also, not only do we need to have equal funding throughout all Michigan schools but we need to raise funding across the board. We need to be setting our students up for success so they can move forward out of high school.

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

**A:** I want to start off by raising minimum wage to a starting point of \$15. Also, I will work to restore prevailing wage, and work with the unions to ensure collective bargaining. If unions are able to maintain the right to organize they can create safe, and well paying jobs. We also need to take care of our small businesses in Michigan.

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

**A:** Everyone should have access to the ballot. We need to support legislation that will assure all that want to vote will be able to register and feel safe from intimidation at their polling locations. We need to have full campaign finance reform. There needs to be a ban on corporate finances as well as equalized state funding for all candidates. These races should be focused on the issues, not how much money we can raise.

**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:** The Great Lakes are one of Michigan's greatest resources. We need to do whatever we can to preserve the lakes. A few of the things I would like to do are: end the extraction of water from the great Lakes for corporate profit, expand the renewable energy portfolio, uncap solar netmetering, and create incentives for home owners to go solar.

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

**A:** I want to strengthen civil rights protections and work place protections for the LGBTQ+ community. We need to close private prisons and eliminate the cash bail system. There needs to be criminal justice reform, and "ban the box" legislation so ex-convicts can reenter the work force. We also need to have automatic voter registration, early voting, and vote by mail.

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