

Michigan State Representative District 85

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)

BEN FREDERICK, Republican Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

ERIC EDWARD SABIN, Democrat



Website: www.votesabin2018.com

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Occupation / Current Position: Claims Intake Specialist

Education: B.A. Political Science (Pre-Law), Economics minor, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Qualifications / Experience: I was raised in a blue collar, working class family, who had to work hard to get by. My family couldn't afford to send me to college on their finances alone, so I worked hard to obtain scholarships to get my education. I worked hard to get where I'm at, just like many citizens in our district. I understand what it feels like to have family members not know when or where the next meal will come.

Questions:

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

A: My top priority is to ensure our citizens have access to higher wage jobs. To address this, we need to protect worker's rights by repealing Right to work and reinstate Prevailing Wage laws. My next priority is to fully invest in our public education system to ensure that all citizens have access to an affordable education. I want to address this by consistently and steadily increase funding to our schools so that teachers are paid fairly and have all the needed materials to teach our children. Finally, I want to ensure our citizens have affordable access to healthcare through expanding Medicaid and healthcare access.

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: Our educational system needs to be affordable and accessible to our citizens of all ages. A strong, fully funded system begins with ensuring that quality childcare and preschool are available for all communities. I also support increased available funding for schools, particularly so that teachers do not have to purchase their own classroom materials. Teachers are one of the most important professions in our society and deserve to be treated as such. We need consistent education funding so that our schools can retain and attract quality teachers and ensure the student to teacher ratio is made appropriate.

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

A: To increase jobs, we must ensure the skills to perform those jobs are available. I support our state further funding training programs for students and workers. Many jobs are becoming automatized, so instead of just letting workers lose their jobs to machines, our state must ensure the training to use and program those machines are available. I support tax incentives that attract companies to bring jobs to Michigan, however, they must come with the caveat that these companies pay the state back if they move these jobs out of Michigan. Finally, I support policies that increase wages to a liveable wage over time.

(Continued)

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

A: Citizens United is one of the worst things to happen to the US. Campaigns are consistently determined by who corporations want to win elections and how they want to spend their money. I support policies that make campaign funding information more accessible and transparent. Our elections should be easily accessible by all citizens. I support making voting as easy as possible, including an automatic voter registration system, vote by mail, and "no reason" absentee ballots so that we can encourage as many people to vote as possible. To ensure voters are being heard, I support redistricting to end gerrymandering.

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 the Great Lakes State, Michigan has a responsibility to ensure that we protect our water for both our economy and our citizens' lives. We must do all that we can to make sure our Great Lakes stay protected from pollution. I support the banning of fracking, as it is too dangerous to our water and land. Further, I support increasing our investment in renewable and green energy sources so that we can address climate change and pollution concerns in the future. We need policies that places our citizens ahead of corporate profits and that prevent corporations from abusing our water, land, and air resources.

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

A: I believe that our state should pass policies that protect its citizens from injustice. I support adding LGBTQ in the protection given by the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act and Michigan's Ethnic Intimidation Act. No person should face any discrimination in any aspect of their life. It's clear that minorities and low-income people face unlawful discrimination by our judicial system. We must ensure that the accused face a jury that is truly made up of their peers. I believe that our state also needs to address the wage gap between men and women. Finally, I support stiffer penalties on companies that commit wage theft.

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