

# Primary Election: August 7, 2018

## Michigan State Senate District 1

**Candidates: 1 Republican + 6 Democrats**

**Vote in one political party's primary only.**

**Duties:** The Michigan Senate shares responsibility with the Michigan House of Representatives to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws.

**Qualifications:** State Senators may serve a maximum of two full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 38 State Senate districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

**Term: 4 years VOTE for ONE (1).**

**PAULINE MONTIE, Republican**  
**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**STEPHANIE CHANG, Democrat**



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

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

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

**Occupation / Current Position:** State Representative - House District 6

**Education:** Masters of Social Work -- University of Michigan (2014) Masters of Public Policy -- University of Michigan (2014) Bachelor of Arts -- University of Michigan (2005)

**Qualifications / Experience:** I worked as a community organizer in Detroit for nearly a decade, building bipartisan coalitions and advocating for issues like criminal justice reform, voting rights, immigrants' rights, and affirmative action. As State Representative I have built a strong track record of hard work and getting things done on substance abuse, small business, criminal justice, and issues affecting women and girls.

### Questions:

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

**A:** 1. Michigan's economy does not work for everyone. We need to ensure that every worker and family in Michigan has what they need to thrive – that includes fair wages, fair taxes, and fair work environments. 2. Our children deserve a quality education. I will continue to fight for policies that help ensure that every child in Michigan, regardless of where they live, attends an excellent school. 3. We need a smarter justice system and safer communities so that our neighborhoods can thrive. From commonsense gun violence prevention to criminal justice reforms, I have been a consistent voice.

**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 will continue to advocate for policies that would help ensure that every child in Michigan, regardless of where they live, receives a quality education. As a State Representative, I introduced legislation to address school closings, literacy, and school environmental assessments. I proudly co-sponsored legislation to help teachers with the resources and support systems they need to teach as well as legislation that would bring about greater transparency and accountability in our charter school system. I believe we can do more to ensure that our education system values the whole child – not over-testing our kids.

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

**A:** We need to ensure that every worker and family in Michigan has what they need to thrive – that includes fair wages, fair taxes, and fair work environments. I proudly introduced legislation to ensure that every Michigan worker receives earned paid sick time. Small businesses make our economy and our

neighborhoods thrive and we need to do more to support small business owners with the resources they need to grow. My bill, HB 4871, regarding Business Improvement Zones recently passed both chambers. I will continue to fight to protect collective bargaining rights as well as restore Michigan's prevailing wage law.

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

**A:** We need to lower the barriers to voting, fight against infringements on the democratic process, count every vote, and ensure that all eligible voters are able to make their voices heard. I introduced bills to allow voters to use municipal ID as voter ID (HB 4599) and reform the recount law so that every precinct is recounted (HB 4161). I support campaign finance reform. We should institute stricter contribution limits on all levels and require candidates to disclose personal finance information. Reducing the influence of special interests in our elections allows all candidates to operate on a level playing field.

**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 will continue to fight for clean air and affordable, safe and accessible drinking water. I have introduced about a dozen environmental justice bills. Michigan is a beautiful state with great natural resources – including the Detroit River. I strongly believe that we need to protect these resources because a clean environment means healthier people. I am a strong supporter of clean and renewable energy. I was honored to be the League of Conservation Voters 2017 Legislator of the Year in recognition of my work to address air quality in Southwest Detroit and Downriver.

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

**A:** Social justice and racial justice are at the center of much of my work as State Representative. Michigan is great because of Michiganders— and that means every single one of us, no matter one's race, ethnicity, gender, immigration status, religion, or sexual orientation. I will continue to be a vocal advocate for immigrants' rights, LGBT protections in our civil rights law, and solutions that address disparities in our criminal justice system, voting system, and throughout our society. For example, I introduced a bill to track data statewide regarding officer involved shootings & use of force complaints by race, etc.

**JAMES COLE Jr, Democrat**

**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**NICHOLAS RIVERA, Democrat**

**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**STEPHANIE ROEHM, Democrat**

**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**BETTIE COOK SCOTT, Democrat**

**Occupation / Current Position:** State Legislature

**Education:** College bachelor's degree

Questions:

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

**A:** My top three priorities are crime reduction, education, and seniors.

**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 put more money in our schools, and our teachers, as well as creating wrap around programs that gives us extra oversight of the students, that would help to ensure no students were left behind.

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

**A:** Give incentives to employers that offer on the job training, as well as to encourage them to hire within the districts limits.

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

**A:** I support all policies that encourage more transparency in campaign financing, especially when it concerns contributions from lobbyists, and big businesses.

**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:** Create policy and oversight to operations in existence and energy operations to be introduced, that would closely analyze energy production, as well as measure risk to the environment. Enbridge pipeline 5 should and would be held accountable to these advisory entities as well.

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

**A:** I have and will always be an advocate to equality in the work force and equal right to pursue happiness. Whether it's acquiring real estate, establishments, and intrusive free lifestyles and it should be done without fear of harassment. I will seek clear cut. Policies and laws to protect the innocent and punish those that would deny citizens their rightful pursuit of these things through fines or worse.

## **ALBERTA TINSLEY TALABI**

### **Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.