

## **Michigan U.S. Representative District 4**

General Election: November 6, 2018

**2 Candidates on the ballot**

**Duties:** U.S. Representatives share the responsibility with U.S. Senators for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Laws that require payment of taxes are initiated in the House of Representatives.

**Qualifications:** A Representative must be at least 25 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 7 years. There are 435 Representative based on Congressional Districts apportioned after each census. Michigan has 14 districts as of 2012.

**Term:** 2 years **Vote for ONE (1).**

### **JOHN MOOLENAAR, Republican**



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

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

**Occupation / Current Position:** Member of Congress

**Education:** Master's degree in public administration from Harvard University; Bachelor's degree in chemistry from Hope College.

**Qualifications / Experience:** Former member of Midland city council (1997-2000), member of state House (2003-08), member of Michigan Senate (2011-14). Dow Chemical: Chemist/Industry Specialist; Middle Michigan Development Corporation: Director of the Small Business Center; Midland Academy of Advanced and Creative Studies: Administrator.

#### Questions:

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

**A:** My priorities are jobs, the opioid crisis, and Michigan agriculture. The economy is strong, Michigan workers are keeping more of their money because of tax cuts. Lower rates mean they will save money next year when they file their taxes. I support skilled trades and vocational learning so workers are ready for future opportunities. The opioid crisis is hurting our communities and I voted for funding prevention and rehabilitation efforts. This includes researching non-addictive treatments to help patients recover without opioids. Finally, agriculture is vital and I meet with farmers regularly to hear their concerns.

**2. IMMIGRATION: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?**

**A:** On immigration, we need to secure the border and make sure we know who is coming into our country. This protects all Americans including those who have made the effort to legally immigrate and become citizens of the United States. We also need to make sure our policies help the economy. This is especially true in tourism and agriculture, two industries that rely on seasonal help to provide services and bring Michigan-made food to market.

**3. HEALTH CARE: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?**

**A:** I support access to quality health care for all Americans without raising taxes or premiums, and without forcing citizens to buy policies they cannot afford. We must ensure affordable coverage for patients with preexisting conditions and younger Americans, protect choices for seniors, and maintain the doctor-patient relationship. I voted for several key programs supporting vulnerable Americans, including the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Maternal, Infant & Early Childhood Visiting Program (MIECHV). This protects children's health care access, and development programs for at-risk children and mothers.

**4. ECONOMY: What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?**

**A:** 4. I have voted for policies that help working men and women, including parents. I voted for legislation that doubled the child tax credit to \$2,000. That money is so important to families, especially those living paycheck-to-paycheck. It can help parents buy extra clothes for their kids, pay for a car repair or be saved for an emergency. I also support skilled trades so students can learn vocational skills that qualify them for good-paying jobs. Finally, Michigan manufacturing is critical to our economy and I want a level playing field for Michigan workers.

**5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.**

**A:** I support an all-of-the-above energy policy that utilizes our abundant domestic resources including clean coal, natural gas, nuclear, as well as pursuing avenues for renewable energies. It is crucial that we become an energy-independent nation and focus on a long-term energy policy that reduces costs for American families and businesses. We are surrounded by a unique national treasure in the state of Michigan, the Great Lakes. It is imperative to ensure that our children and grandchildren get to enjoy the beauty of the Great Lakes and other natural resources, while sustaining our economy and outdoor heritage.

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

**A:** Preserving the integrity of our elections and ensuring the ability to vote for all Americans is essential to our Republic. Earlier this year, I voted for legislation funding state efforts to enhance election administration and technology, make election security improvements, and implement the Help America Vote Act of 2002, which modernizes and improves voting systems and voter access. I appreciate the hard work of local official and poll workers who help on Election Day.

## **JERRY HILLIARD, Democrat**



**Website:** [Jerryforour4th.com](http://Jerryforour4th.com)

**Facebook:** <http://Facebook>

**Occupation / Current Position:** Adjunct Faculty Community College

**Education:** MBA University of Michigan-Flint, MA Central Michigan University, BS Central Michigan University.

**Qualifications / Experience:** Former chair of Isabella County Democratic Party, active in Democratic Politics, teach economics and business management.

Questions:

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

**A:** Medicare for all-push for public option at a minimum for our national health care system. Medicare for all is the most expedient way to get the health care system we need, and can be proud of because it is a known entity. People know it works and it will not be subject to the slander and lies that were made up about the ACA because it is already a success. Rebuild the middle class-through forward thinking economic policies, a living wage, strong unions, Medicare for all and jobs of the future. Education-push for increased K-12 funding, smaller class sizes, no public dollars for private schools, and college debt help

**2. IMMIGRATION: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?**

**A:** Immigration policy has to have empathy for immigrants and their families. Dreamers should be allowed the privileges granted under DACA in the Obama administration. Many immigrant workers provide valuable services in many industries, especially farming, that go left unfilled in their absence. Several southern states have passed very strict farm worker bills that resulted in farm products going unharvested and rotting in the fields. Immigration policy should be fair, compassionate, and based on data, not emotion.

**3. HEALTH CARE: What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?**

**A:** Medicare for all is the answer to our healthcare problems. Medicare is a significantly more efficient system than the current one. One of its biggest advantages is that it would improve prenatal, maternal and child health. Compared to other advanced countries, most of which have a form of national health care, the U.S. ranks near the bottom in quality of healthcare in all of these categories. Even more so than the overall low rankings of most categories except health care for the wealthy. If there is a first step it should be a public option, not just adding 55-65 ages. It is the moral and fiscally responsible path.

**4. ECONOMY: What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?**

**A:** We need a comprehensive overhaul of labor law in the United States. The future of the workforce is beginning a period of dramatic change as artificial intelligence replaces a greater and greater number of workers. This overhaul needs to include a minimum wage that is a living wage and indexed to inflation. Also a reduction in the number of hours that is considered a work week from 40 hours to no more than 35. Labor laws that strengthen the bargaining power of labor unions to reverse the 40 year trend of price inflation being greater than wage inflation thus lowering the standard of living for the majority of workers.

**5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY: What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.**

**A:** The course we are on now could hardly be worse in environmental policy. Of the many policies we need to pursue are less reliance on fossil fuels by increasing subsidies for wind and solar while simultaneously decreasing them on fossil fuels. A carbon tax plan would be another way of addressing the over reliance on fossil fuels. For the water category of environmental protection we need to invest in water treatment and infrastructure. For the Great Lakes in particular we need to shut down the Canadian pipeline going through the Straits of Mackinaw. If we do not the future of the MI health and economy is bleak.

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

**A:** I support restoring the fairness doctrine, overturning the Supreme Court decision in Clinton vs Citizens United which allows dark money in the form of undocumented campaign contributions, foreign involvement in our elections, voting by mail, early voting, motor voter laws, allowing felons who have paid their debt to society to be reinstated to vote.

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