

Michigan U.S. Representative District 13 – Partial Term

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: Partial Term ends January 2, 2019. Vote for ONE (1).

BRENDA JONES, Democrat



Website: www.VoteBrendaJones.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/brenda8jonesforcongress/>

Occupation / Current Position: Detroit City Council President

Education: Cass Tech; Wayne State University, BS Psychology, School of Labor Studies

Qualifications / Experience: In 2005, I was elected to the Detroit City Council. I've been re-elected three additional times, as an at-large member. I was elected president by my peers in 2014 and again in 2018. Prior to my Council career, I retired after 30-plus years with Michigan Bell/SBC/AT&T.

Questions:

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

A: My top three priorities are to (1) address quality of life issues in the 13th district, including jobs and economy, infrastructure and transportation, redlining, poor education, environmental challenges and unsafe neighborhoods and streets; (2) gain access to federal funding, grants and programs that spur development and accelerate entrepreneurial activities to stimulate our local economy; (3) continue to leverage my strong relationships with the Michigan delegation and strengthen those with my democratic colleagues, while reaching across the aisle to work for the benefit of my constituents, our state and the nation.

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

A: Recently, I met a family whose father was deported after 26 years of being here in the U.S. This man was not a criminal and was targeted for deportation. This is wrong. While I support removing any criminal element from our population, our immigration policies need a comprehensive reform. This must include protecting our Dreamers, and creating a realistic pathway to citizenship for our undocumented individuals. Some of our citizens were brought here as slaves and had to fight to gain true citizenship. We should not have to repeat this painful history. I will advocate for a compassionate approach to this issue.

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: My concerns with today's healthcare system include elimination of the individual mandate to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, prescription drug prices for seniors on medicare and Healthcare for all (including dental and vision) & paid maternity leave. A single-payer healthcare system is the best answer to ensure the health and welfare of our nation. I will work to protect every American, especially our veterans, because healthcare should be a human right. Congress must continue to work on more inclusive legislation until no one is without healthcare, prescription, vision or dental coverage.

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

A: Our laws must ensure that the American dream is a realistic goal for every family. This will remain my top priority. This means creating a universal education plan (that includes college, skilled-trades, and early childhood education), strengthening national labor laws to protect our hard-working men & women and strengthening our labor laws. I will work to remove obstacles that prevent individuals from achieving economic stability.

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 fully funding the EPA to ensure monitoring and enforcing environmental standards including the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. I will also fight to promote incentives to invest in clean, renewable and alternative energy sources. Protecting wildlife and national parks from private interests such as drilling, fracking and mining is also important to preservation for future generations. I also favor a study to determine if funding for the Great Lakes Initiative is meeting the evolving needs of our region's waterways. I will advocate for testing to ensure lead or air pollution does not affect our health.

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

A: I support making voting accessible to every American. Congress must work to eliminate the impact of discriminatory voter suppression laws and practices across the country. In order to do this, I will fight to implement measures to automate voter registration, expand early and mail-in voting, and increase funding for our local clerks' offices. I will also work to pass laws to eliminate dark money in federal elections and reduce the influence of corporate dollars on campaigns.

MARC JOSEPH SOSNOWSKI, U.S. Taxpayers

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

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