

Michigan State Representative District 2

2 Candidates on the November 6, 2018 ballot

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: 2 years Vote for ONE (1)

JOHN PALFFY, Republican



Occupation / Current Position: President JMP Financial

Education: Kenyon College 80 AB History Honors and Econ University of Michigan Grad School of Business Administration 82, MBA Finance George Mason University Grad School of Economics, Coursework towards Phd

Qualifications / Experience: Govt: Walker Fellow Economics, Heritage Foundation. Tax/budget policy. Chief Economist Dan Quayle. Sr Political Appointee, President Reagan, USDA. Executive, Rural Electrification Administration. Current precinct delegate. Over 20 years in investment banking Adjunct Professor, Econ and Bus, WSU and Walsh College My family and I have extensive experience in education Newspaper Publisher

Questions:

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

A: My highest priority will be the redevelopment of Far Eastside Detroit. This requires developers, capital, schools, and cooperation between both private and public interests of the Pointes, Detroit, and Lansing. Development requires new residential and commercial building, chartering new schools, public safety, greenspace and community programs; all of which will provide the foundation for jobs and a strong new community to the benefit of residents and contiguous communities. At the top of our top legislative priority is education (see below). The third leg of our agenda is providing a strong economic infrastructure.

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: Michigan education funding has declined faster than all but one state this decade and the results are showing in declining reading and math scores across demographics. We still are above average in per capita spending and teacher salaries. I have and will continue to advocate real reform from the classroom to Lansing to better allocate our education resources and increase the efficiency of our schools. Specifically, we need to promote and reform school choice; reward performance and critical disciplines, not tenure; reinstate school discipline; and increase teacher and school accountability.

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

A: Education is the most important foundation to individual and community prosperity. In the short term good schools make good neighborhoods and attract new business and jobs. In the long term, education builds a strong civil society and economically productive, employable, and entrepreneurial citizens. Having spent a number of years working, writing and proposing policy on the Federal budget I also hope to bring innovative ideas and discipline to our state budget. Perhaps most critical in the intermediate term is deregulation. Eliminating prevailing wage regulations that inflate costs and reduce employment is a good

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

A: I believe current state campaign funding and voting processes are reasonable and enforcing them and not changing them is a higher priority than chasing changes with uncertain outcomes. The most valuable change we can provide in our election process is assuring we have an educated electorate so that every vote is based on well-informed individual choices. A good start is requiring rigorous Civics classes in our middle and high schools.

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: We need to secure and maintain federal funding for the Great Lakes and maintain them as a priority at the state and regional level. Commercial entities should pay fair market prices for use and access to our water and water rights. I will work with all stakeholders to rebuild the pipeline so that in the event of a rupture, the Great Lakes will not be impacted.

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

A: I believe that enforcing our current laws fairly without discrimination should be a high priority. America is a Republic premised on equal opportunity. Our role as legislators is to assure all citizens have equal opportunities to prosper. This begins in the elementary classroom with making sure we have an educated society. Education is the key to civil society and prosperity and our best course to social and racial justice.

JOSEPH TATE, Democrat



Website: tateformichigan.com

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/tateformichigan>

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Occupation / Current Position: Program Manager - Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC)

Education: Michigan State University: B.A. Public Policy & M.S. Kinesiology University of Michigan: M.B.A. & M.S. Natural Resources

Qualifications / Experience: (2017 -) Program Manager - DEGC (2009 - 2013) Infantry Officer - United States Marine Corps (2004 - 2006) Professional Athlete - National Football League

Questions:

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

A: Education-Michigan's priority should revolve around supporting a K-12 education system that prepares our citizens to succeed in tomorrow's workforce. I propose ensuring our expected student outcomes are matched with the resources and funding required to meet those goals. Job Growth-We must allocate resources towards workforce development programs to meet the demand of industry, and lower the barriers to entry for those wanting to grow their existing business. Transit-I will work with our municipal leaders and support regional transit plans that bring viable public transit to Southeast Michigan.

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: It's critical that our children across Michigan have access to high-quality K-12 school options in their neighborhood regardless of their socioeconomic background or which zip code they reside in. I support steps to ensure that our youth will have quality neighborhood schools. Additionally, reducing the amount of debt students can incur in postsecondary education -- whether trade schools or colleges -- should be a priority for the Michigan Legislature. Fundamentally education is an investment for our region. Education ensures our residents are prepared for 21st century demands in the workforce and society.

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

A: The Southeast Michigan region has experienced a significant economic recovery over the past ten years, but there are policies that can provide a boost to a growing economy. First off, collaborative policy initiatives need to be adopted to cultivate regional cooperation across municipalities to help us build a shared mindset of community success. Secondly, we as a state need to invest in our aging infrastructure system. Residents and organizations alike need to have an assurance that the roads they drive on and the plumbing in their buildings are reliable and safe.

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

A: Proper campaign finance rules provide a necessary layer of transparency to candidates running for public office -- an expectation required by the foundation of our government. Additionally, I support the voter reforms initiatives led by Promote the 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: Environmental issues are at the forefront of global policy. The depth of Michigan's natural resource is an asset not only to the state, but to the region. We must make it a priority to create a framework for sustainable use of our natural resources. Policies built around increasing renewable energy sources for the state provide the necessary steps towards overall sustainability of our natural resources. Finally, viable options for Line 5 replacement must be deliberated carefully and thoughtfully in order to protect Michigan's freshwater.

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

A: I would pursue banning 17-year-olds from automatically being prosecuted as adults in court. We need to ensure that we are not incarcerating kids in an adult prison system.

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