

Michigan State Representative District 17

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)**

JOE BELINO Jr, Republican

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

MICHELLE LaVOY, Democrat



Website: www.michellelavoy.com

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

Occupation / Current Position: Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Monroe

Education: St. Mary Academy, High School Diploma; Miami University, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science; University of Dayton, Master of Public Administration

Qualifications / Experience: Clerk-Treasurer, City of Monroe; Donor Relations Coordinator, Mercy Foundation at Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio; Corporate Relations Manager, American Heart Association; Area Director, American Heart Association; Operation Coordinator, American Cancer Society; Human Resources, Montgomery County Ohio

Questions:

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

A: My top priorities are: 1. Ensuring Opportunity for All--tax relief for working families, end the retirement tax and protect pensions, and put Michigan jobs first by ending tax breaks to companies that outsource our jobs. 2. Investing in our Future-- Keep your tax dollars out of for-profit charter schools and invest in our public schools. 3. Strong Communities--Find real solutions to addiction and substance abuse, ensure access to quality healthcare including mental health care, and improve infrastructure like roads and water systems.

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: 1. Fully fund our public schools and and keep tax dollars out of for-profit charter schools 2. Ensure that all students have access to affordable higher education whether that be a college education, trade school, or job retraining program. 3. Lower class sizes to allow more individualized attention for students. 4. Ensure the voices of teachers and parents are elevated in discussions about how to improve learning, not Lansing politicians.

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

A: 1. Create a tax structure that's fair for working people, not just the wealthy and well connected by repealing the retirement tax, giving tax relief to working people, and incentivizing job creation. 2. Grow paychecks by restoring prevailing wage laws, repealing "Right to Work", and restoring full collective bargaining rights to all workers. 3. Invest in our schools, job retraining programs, and the skilled trades to ensure we have talent for the jobs of the future.

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

A: 1. Increasing transparency over who is influencing our lawmakers by strengthening our disclosure laws. The public should be able to find everyone who is contributing to campaign committees and PACs and how each dollar is being spent. 2. Get big money out of politics by lowering campaign contribution limits and curtailing the influence of super PACs. 3. Ensure every eligible voter is able to cast a ballot by promoting policies like no reason absentee and early voting.

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: 1. Oppose the efforts by politicians in Lansing to allow corporate interests and polluters to override rules made by the Department of Environmental Quality and not allow Nestle to continue extracting our water to increase their profits for little to no cost to them. 2. Fund efforts to protect our waterways like Lake Erie and Monroe's River Raisin. 3. Promote energy policy and pipeline safety that creates and protects good paying jobs while also protecting our environment.

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

A: 1. Find real solutions to addiction and substance abuse that give people a chance to get better and become contributing members of society again instead of putting them in the criminal justice system. 2. Promote the freedom to see a doctor and afford medicine by cracking down on predatory drug companies that unnecessarily increase cost while ensuring everyone has access to quality healthcare that covers mental health care and pre-existing conditions.

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