

Michigan State Representative District 21

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)**

DARIAN MOORE, Republican

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

KRISTY PAGAN, Democrat



Website: kristypagan.com

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Occupation / Current Position: State Representative

Education: Salem High School, Diploma, Western Michigan University, bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, The George Washington University, master's degree in Political Management

Qualifications / Experience: Currently serving in my 2nd term as your state representative. Prior to being in elected office, I worked to make higher education more affordable at Wayne State University and as a legislative aide in education policy in the United States Senate.

Questions:

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

A: Since my first day in office, my top priority has been making sure we fully fund our public schools so that all of our children have a chance to succeed. We can do this by taking a look at how we fund our schools, remove the profit motive that has plagued our current funding model, and invest in training and retaining highly qualified teachers. As I go door-to-door, voters are also concerned about our failing infrastructure, including our roads and bridges, how we can raise wages for all working families, and how we can address the healthcare crisis and protect pre-existing conditions coverage.

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 must ensure our public schools are adequately funded. Studies show that we are underfunding our public education system by as much as \$2,000 per student. This is unacceptable. Every tax dollar meant to educate our children must go into the classroom and not line the pockets of for-profit education management companies that contract with our public schools. We must remove the profit motive in education and no longer look at our children as dollar signs. I also support tuition-free community college and creating more opportunities in the skilled trades.

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

A: The core of a strong economy is one that puts the people of Michigan first. We are currently spending your tax dollars on sending jobs out-of-state and overseas. I support legislation that puts Michigan companies first and am proud to have been endorsed by the Small Business Association of Michigan. I hear from families who are struggling to get by because of the cost of healthcare, paying for car repairs due to our crumbling roads, and skyrocketing car insurance. I have sponsored or co-sponsored bills that solve these problems.

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

A: For too long, special interests and corporations have played a large role in Michigan elections, which ends up rigging the rules in their favor. As a result, our state and our people are worse off. We need to put an end to this through comprehensive campaign finance reform and limit outside dark money that influence elections. I support legislation to create a nonpartisan, independent redistricting commission and have sponsored legislation to streamline the voter registration process to make it as easy and accessible as possible to participate in our democracy.

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: Protecting Michigan's most precious natural resources is one of my top priorities. I have introduced legislation to prohibit toxic chemicals from ending up in our waterways and landfills, ensure oil pipeline safety, and help students learn about sustainability and environmental concerns. In Michigan, where the nation's largest inland oil spill occurred in 2010, it is unacceptable that we would continue to put the health and safety of our natural resources in jeopardy. The Line 5 pipeline running under the Straits of Mackinac represents an imminent threat to our Great Lakes and we must address this threat immediately.

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

A: Every person, regardless of race, gender, or socioeconomic background, deserves the right to the same opportunities and pursuit of happiness. I have and will continue to support legislation that will remove barriers and access to economic and educational opportunities, and fight back against systemic discrimination and oppression. This includes policies like ensuring that all of public schools are fully funded without creating winners and losers and expanding protections against discrimination under the Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act.

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