

Michigan State Representative District 33

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)**

JEFF YAROCH, Republican

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

ANDREA GERALDS, Democrat



Website: andreageraldsfordistrict33.wordpress.com

Facebook: <http://AndreaGeraldtsfor33rd>

Twitter: twitter.com/MIfordistrict33

Occupation / Current Position: Small business owner

Education: B.A. Japanese History before Perry and Chinese History Pre Boxer Rebellion M.A. American Political and Diplomatic History, Cold War Era. Minor studies in U.S. Military History and Russian History

Qualifications / Experience: Volunteerism in Schools, Veterans needs, Drug abuse treatment, Elderly issues and Domestic Violence

Questions:

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

A: My top three priorities are 1) Education reform and funding 2) Infrastructure including roads, bridges, dams, transportation and internet 3) corruption and money in politics

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: All state funding that is going to for-profit initiatives needs to be revoked and reinvested in the community. An expansion of childcare funding for working parents in programs like Head Start and Great Start needs to be opened to more members of our community, to help prepare children from early childhood for success. More vocational programs and certificate programs at a high school level need to be offered, to create a pipeline of success rather than a pipeline of failure. Michigan should change the current standards to the same standards used in Massachusetts, the best performing schools in the country.

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

A: Training and retraining opportunities. Instead of funding Medicaid work requirement administration, use that money to train adult under and unemployed people into jobs that will pay very well, with the associated benefits. Target low-income communities first, and offer a variety of training, from the trades to IT, to elder care in the medical field or medical billing. Support their educational opportunities with childcare subsidies, TANF and SNAP as needed to make it as easy as possible to achieve. Encourage those with legal issues on their background checks to go through the process to have qualifying events expunged

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

A: Everyone above the age of 18 is entitled to vote, no exceptions. Voting is the singular fundamental right this country was built on and it should not be denied to anyone. Critical to free elections are elections free from interference from self-interested parties. Campaign finance reform is critical to prevent our democracy from further becoming a pay-to-play system that only serves those who can afford to purchase a government official.

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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: Allow farmers to put solar panels or wind turbines on their own land. Expand state-sponsored alternative energy sources such as geothermic energy from composting or garbage masses. Let's Invest in plants similar to what the Swedes are using, where they burn trash and use air scrubbers so advanced the emissions are 99% clean. I support the state assisting in cleaning phosphorus out of our waterways, instituting a clean water rule and enforcing a strict no transport out of state water rule. Enbridge has funded the Chamber of Commerce Lawsuit against redistricting. They have lost the right to do anything in our state

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

A: Release all prisoners serving time for non-violent marijuana crimes, expunge the records of everyone convicted of such crimes. Encourage more police departments to work with Hope not Handcuffs to reroute addicts to rehabs and detox centers rather than to jail. Reopen mental health facilities and fully fund them, jail is not the place for the chronically mentally ill. Support community policing methods to create accountability and familiarity with local police officers and the communities they serve. Invest in training for the police to pursue this style of policing, provide body cameras.

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