

Michigan State Representative District 63

4 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)**

MATT HALL, Republican



Website: <http://www.electmatthall.com>

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

Twitter: twitter.com/electmatthall

Occupation / Current Position: Attorney, self employed

Education: BBA, Business Management & Public Administration, Cum Laude, Western Michigan University Juris Doctor, Advanced Constitutional Advocacy, Magna Cum Laude, WMU Cooley Law School

Qualifications / Experience: Former West Michigan liaison for Michigan Attorney General's office. Worked in the private sector for combat propulsion systems manufacturer, Longtime former Kalamazoo County resident, who now lives in Emmett Township.

Questions:

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

A: 1. Lower auto insurance rates. Michigan has the highest auto insurance rates in the country. I support lowering auto insurance rates by providing more plans and more choices for consumers and cracking down on fraud. 2. Continue strengthening our economy. We can further grow our economy and expand job opportunities by promoting skilled trades training, cutting taxes, supporting a quality education, and eliminating/modernizing overburdensome regulations. 3. Rebuild our infrastructure. We should dedicate our fuel tax money toward rebuilding our roads and ensure our water infrastructure provides clean drinking water.

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. Not enough elementary school students are proficient readers. Early literacy programs must be made a priority. 2. Repeal common core. More control and decision making authority should be returned to local school boards. 3. State accountability and funding systems should be changed to focus on subject matter mastery and a student should be encouraged to move at his or her personalized pace. 4. Vocational, career, and technical education in our state must become a higher priority and receive additional support.

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

A: 1. Help hardworking taxpayers by improving skilled trades training opportunities and cutting taxes, so people can keep more of the money they have earned. 2. I support cutting overburdensome government regulations and mandates that kill job creation. 3. I support repairing Michigan's crumbling infrastructure. Taxpayer dollars spent on repairing roads, bridges, and other infrastructure projects must be spent responsibly and contractors must be held accountable. Road tax money must be dedicated to repairing our roads. Public/private partnerships should be encouraged to repair our state's infrastructure.

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

A: I support requiring photo identification to 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

A: Environmental regulations should be based on scientific evidence and not politics. I support science based, reasonable environmental regulations.

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

A: 1. I will continue to advocate for the sanctity of life. I will support legislation aimed at reducing the number of abortions occurring in our state. 2. I support reforming Michigan's civil asset forfeiture laws to require a criminal conviction before the government can seize a person's assets. A person is entitled to due process under the law before his or her property is taken away by the government.

JENNIFER ANIANO, Democrat



Website: Jenanianoformi.org

Facebook: <http://@jenanianoformi>

Occupation / Current Position: Teacher

Education: B.S. Journalism B.S. History M.Ed. with teaching certification

Working on Doctor of Education

Qualifications / Experience: Teacher Kalamazoo Public Schools Vice President
Kalamazoo Education Association

Questions:

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

A: Education Labor 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: School funding must be increased and equitable. Skilled trades should be a part of the curriculum for graduation. Testing needs to be reduced. We should focus on closing the opportunity gap, not the achievement gap. Two- year degree programs and certification programs should be free or heavily subsidized. The cost of four-year degrees must go down.

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

A: I believe this starts with ending right-to-work. Giving power back to the every day workers in Michigan will ensure a better economy.

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

A: Everyone eligible to vote should easily be able to do so. We need to do a better job of giving voting access to our elderly, disabled, and poor.

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: I support protecting our Great Lakes and easing into renewable energies. I understand the necessities of pipelines; however, I believe we need to protect our Great Lakes. There have been too many oil disasters in recent history for the people of Michigan not to want to protect our most precious resource. We are the gatekeepers of the Great Lakes and we need to behave as such.

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

A: We have to first look at sentencing and how this practice is utilized across the state. We also have to make sure all public employees are aware of social justice, racial justice, and the systemic issues that plague our state.

RONALD HAWKINS, Libertarian

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

(Continued)

JOHN ANTHONY La PIETRA, Green



Website: <http://www.newmenu.org/johnanthony> (and coming soon:)
<http://jalp4tP.catesby.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/jalp4thePeople>

Occupation / Current Position: attorney, solo practice – election law, Constitutional & civil rights, freedom of information, etc.

Education: BA Macalester College 1978 (planning/public admin). JD Cooley Law School 2008 (admin law & Constitutional law/civil rights; studied legislative process, election law, plain-English legal writing).

Qualifications / Experience: I've been an attorney 10 years – after working 10 years each in the public, non-profit, & private sectors. So I now what working people face in dealing with government. And I know government is business – but PUBLIC business, the business OF the People, to be done FOR the People. So we need to make sure it's done BY the People – in the public eye, with full public transparency & accountability.

Questions:

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

A: #1]Strengthen government BY the People, boost Social Justice & Grassroots Democracy, help Michigan rise from DEAD LAST in integrity/accountability (<https://www.publicintegrity.org/2015/11/09/18427/michigan-gets-f-grade-2015-state-integrity-investigation>) by learning from best practices & improving on them to serve People of all parties (or none). #2]Make long-term Sustainability a major policy goal in fields ranging from roads to energy to water. #3]Apply other Green Values: Ecological Wisdom, Non-Violence; Community-Based Economics, Decentralization, Feminism, Personal/Global Responsibility, Respect for Diversity.

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: SOCIAL JUSTICE/Give all students high-quality critical education meeting their needs/interests. Tuition-free college, erase student debt. GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY, DECENTRALIZATION/Give local people more say in how public \$\$ are spent to educate their kids as good learners/citizens. Student/parent control of student data. Strong public oversight of any public \$\$ for charters/privatization. COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMICS/State, Federal gov't help overcome varying local ability to fund education, reach fairness/equality. RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY/Fund community-targeted programs, not cookie-cutter teach-to-test approaches.

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

A: ECOLOGICAL WISDOM, SUSTAINABILITY/Green New Deal creating jobs for 100% fully renewable energy production, sustainable use by 2030; real jobs program hiring for needed public works. There'll be no economy or jobs if we don't end the fossil-fuel economy & reverse climate change. SOCIAL JUSTICE/Living wage (\$15/hr a starting point); equal pay for comparable work; index expensing of top compensation to average worker pay. COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMICS: Gov't is for ensuring general welfare; make stimulus efforts bottom-up, with local oversight/accountability. RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY: End discrimination, stop wasting talent.

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

A: GRASSROOTS DEMOCRACY, SOCIAL JUSTICE: Empower & enable all voters to vote (no caging out); all votes count; only voters to replace elected officials. Robust rights of recall/referendum/initiative; END REFERENDUM-PROOFING. Non-partisan redistricting (or PR); END GERRYMANDERS. Fair access for candidates of any party (or none) to the ballot & public financing/forums. Stronger FOIA/open-meeting laws, tougher conflict of interest definition & limits; disclose public officials' finances & gifts to them. CITIZEN REVIEW/CONTROL BOARDS for all government enforcement actions. (I take no PAC \$\$, max \$100 from citizens.)

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: FULLY SUSTAINABLE energy production & use by 2030; drop all-of-the-above plans which allow nuclear/fracking. PROGRESSIVE UTILITY RATES to boost conservation, cut consumption, reduce stress on infrastructure & "need" for extracting energy. BAN FRACKING; leave fossil fuels in the ground. CLEAN, FRESH WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT; Michigan must protect Great Lakes (esp. from more pipeline spills, like Enbridge in Kalamazoo River; SHUT DOWN LINE 5) & ensure sustainability. NEW/WIDER ROADS DON'T CURE CONGESTION (<http://wp.me/a4Avdc-1m>); focus on maintenance, guaranteed durability. See GPMI platform: <http://wp.me/a4Avdc-2f>

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

A: Some government agencies have an inspector general or other ombudsperson. Most often, they watch how public money is spent. But we also need to watch how elected officials use power entrusted to them by the people to bring justice FOR THE PEOPLE. We need independent citizen oversight of county prosecutors, sheriffs, courts, the Attorney General's office. I will take seriously any credible claim of abuse of power, whether against a race or class or on any other basis. And I will work to end abuses, and empower and protect citizens who make such claims, so our state will have justice we can trust – FOR THE PEOPLE.

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