

## **Michigan State Representative District 67**

### **3 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)**

### **LEON R CLARK, Republican**

**Website:** leonformichigan.com

**Education:** Graduate of Mason High School

**Qualifications / Experience:** 24 yrs. Mason City Council 9 yrs Mayor City of Mason

#### Questions:

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

**A:** We need to make Michigan more business friendly. We need to attract new, more diverse businesses to the state in order to bolster our economic base. Our education system is broken, and the only fix offered, is to throw money at it. We need to do a complete assessment, including the teachers and Administrators on the front lines. Once we identify the problems, fix them, then determine the appropriate amount of funding. Once done, we will be in position to offer a better educated pool of possible employees for the new businesses we attract. Infrastructure- we need to lock in a permanent funding stream then fix roads

**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:** See the answer above

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

**A:** Along with my previous statement, we need to lower taxes, address the high auto insurance premiums. If we fix the education system, and then fund it appropriately, the taxpayers will realize a savings. If we get these issues in line, the residents of the state will have more money to put in their pockets.

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

**A:** Campaign funding policies and rules should be reviewed and adjusted. It's sad that elections turn out being about money, and who has the most of it. I favor Campaign reform. I believe every citizen has the right to vote, and they should. I support election day, and the current absentee ballot system.

**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 believe we should take every reasonable action to protect all of our natural resources. Technology today allows many, options to do just that. That same technology should be used to develop practical, efficient, economical methods of utilizing renewable energy. As to pipeline 5, I believe that pipelines are the most efficient and economical means to transport products. Increased monitoring, and implementing the most advanced maintenance methods available.

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

**A:** I believe that justice should not be based on race, color, creed, religion, or anything other than the law. I would support any and all policies implemented that would lead to that end. People are people, we are all humans, and the laws we live by absolutely must apply to each of us the same.

(Continued)

## KARA HOPE, Democrat



**Website:** <http://votekarahope.com>

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/KaraHopeHoltMI>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/KaraHope7](https://twitter.com/KaraHope7)

**Occupation / Current Position:** attorney/Ingham County Commissioner

**Education:** Juris Doctor cum laude, 2003, WMU Cooley Law School; Bachelor of Arts with high honors (Phi Beta Kappa), 1997, Michigan State University

**Qualifications / Experience:** With nearly 6 years in elected office as an Ingham County Commissioner; two years working for the state appellate court; over 10 years building and leading the Holt Community Arts Council, an all-volunteer community organization; and even more time serving my community with free legal services and other volunteerism, I know what public service is all about. It's been my life.

### Questions:

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

**A:** 1 – Roads and infrastructure: We need a “once in a generation” investment in our roads, bridges, and water and sewer systems. We have to pay for it in a way that does not put too much of the burden on working and lower-income people. 2- Public education: We need to increase funding at every level: from early childhood through post-secondary education, including trade and technical training. 3 – Funding for local governments: We need to restore funding to the services that residents expect, want, and need from their local government: public safety, parks, senior services, and roads and other 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:** We cannot keep cutting pay and benefits for teachers and expect our best and brightest to join this profession. We cannot let our schools rot while increasing the number of students in each classroom and expect children to reach their potential. We need equitable funding to improve student achievement, especially for under-served children (children of color and children in lower-income areas). We need to invest in professional development and better pay and benefits for teachers to attract and retain quality educators.

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

**A:** We need to invest in higher education and other post-secondary training to help prepare students for the workforce that modern employers require. We need to create incentives for college graduates to remain in Michigan. We need to stop the assault on workers’ rights and labor organizations that drives wages down.

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

**A:** Regarding campaign funding, I oppose “dark money” spending to promote candidates or issues closely tied with specific candidates. I support the work of Voters Not Politicians to end partisan gerrymandering as well as the work of Promote the Vote to increase access to the ballot. Voting should be simple and convenient, so I endorse allowing residents to register to vote at any time, including on Election Day. I support widespread access to absentee voting. And I support automatic voter registration.

**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:** Michigan’s heavy dependence on fossil fuels, including coal, is problematic because it contributes to air and water pollution. We need to crack down on polluters. I am encouraged by the state’s commitment to deriving 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2030. I am concerned about the condition of Line 5 and the threat it poses to a huge portion of the world’s freshwater supply.

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

**A:** I support equitably funding public schools to close the achievement gap that separates higher-income kids and lower-income kids as well as the achievement gap that separates white students from students of color. I oppose jailing persons who are unable to pay court-imposed fines or fees because imprisonment for this reason disproportionately affects persons of color and lower-income people. I support Michigan's efforts to improve indigent defense for low-income defendants.

**ZACHARY MOREAU, Libertarian**

Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

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