

Michigan State Representative District 69

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)

GEORGE NASTAS, Republican



Education: Ph.D. Business Administration MBA Business Administration BS Mechanical Engineering

Qualifications / Experience: University instructor @ UM-F, MSU; Analyst, DoD

Questions:

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

A: 1. Undue progressive legislation 2. Reduce influence of special interests and their lobbyists 3. Eliminate taxes on income and wealth, eliminate income and wealth redistribution 4. Improve roads and bridges and their funding 5. Reform high cost automobile insurance 6. Require defined contribution retirement plan for all taxpayer funded pensions, eliminate double dipping 7. Cap compensation and retirement benefits for all taxpayer paid employees, retirees; examine feasibility of claw backs

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. Require performance standards for students, teachers, administrators, and schools and require reporting of their performance. Tie funding to performance 2. Provide more student and parent control of any tax dollars going to education 3. Require life skills, U.S. history, the Constitution teaching 4. Review sources and uses of funds 5. Redirect to classroom education funds spent for overhead 6. Continuously improve services to provide better value for tax dollar spent

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

A: 1. Eliminate unreasonable government imposed barriers to attracting businesses and their expansion 2. Eliminate taxes/fees on business that are not directly related to the business' activities - pay for service, menu of services approach 3. Level playing field for all businesses, no targeted incentives 4. Business need directed community college skill programs

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

A: 1. Eliminate campaign financing laws - the procedure is awkward and difficult to use, has not eliminated influence of special interests and their lobbyists 2. Oppose candidate financial disclosure proposals 3. Oppose progressive ballot proposal to get control of voting district formation - progressives are against strong individual liberty, economic freedom, and private property rights

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. Favor a market based approach to meeting Michigan's energy needs - consumer demand should direct allocation of investor resources to energy supply 2. Favor hardening energy distribution system against potential emp 3. Favor recycling and minimizing the use of landfills 4. Favor relocating pipeline if science based study leads to that conclusion

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

A: 1. Oppose social justice programs and spending - it is inherently discriminatory and leads to misallocation of other peoples money 2. Favor equal treatment under the law while preserving freedom of association

JULIE BRIXIE, Democrat



Website: www.JulieBrixie.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/JulieBrixie

Occupation / Current Position: Meridian Township Treasurer, 2008-Present (I am currently serving my third term.)

Education: Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Geography; University of Illinois; 1988 Master's Degree in Crop and Soil Sciences; specialization in Environmental Toxicology; Michigan State University; 1991

Qualifications / Experience: Meridian Township Treasurer, 2008 – Present Meridian Township Trustee, 2000 – 2008 Meridian Township Land Preservation Board, 2012 – Present Commissioner, Meridian Township Planning Commission, 1999 Member, Meridian Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 1998 Environmental Consultant, Michigan Biotechnology Institute, 1994 – 1996 Environmental Chemist, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, 1991 – 1994

Questions:

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

A: Fixing our crumbling roads and aging infrastructure. I will work to cut our highest-in-the-nation truck weights in half and put together a comprehensive plan to fix our infrastructure. Investing in our children's future by establishing universal preschool and pediatric literacy programs, putting an end to the raid on the School Aid Fund, and making sure our teachers have the resources they need to help every child read at grade level and realize their potential. Making college affordable again by bringing back the MI Promise Scholarship to give every child up to \$30,000 toward technical training or a college degree.

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: Investing in pediatric literacy programs and establishing universal preschool. The best opportunity to impact a child's future is in the first five years where rapid brain development occurs. Putting an end to the raid on the School Aid Fund. Bringing educators to the table when critical decisions are being made about our children's education, not the DeVos family. Making sure our teachers have the resources they need to help every child read at grade level. Making college affordable again by bringing back the MI Promise Scholarship to give every child up to \$30,000 toward technical training or a college degree.

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

A: Put Michiganders to work fixing our roads and infrastructure. Far too many families haven't had a pay raise in years. Michigan's median household income has fallen dramatically. It's time to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hour to lift everyone up. Bolster our manufacturing sector by increasing renewable energy and continuing our world-leading autonomous vehicle research and development, which is drawing the tech industry to Michigan. Invest in our communities. Leading businesses locate where talented people want to live work and play. Far too many of our children are leaving us for communities they can't find here.

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

A: I support any measure that makes it easier to vote. Nobody should need a reason to vote, it's time for us to allow for no-reason absentee voting; early voting; and automatic voter registration, or at least early voter registration when teenagers obtain their driver's license and Election-Day voter registration. Most importantly, we need to get corporate money out of politics entirely and we need to reduce the influence of PACs on our political process. Dark money and the doubling of contribution limits have given a handful of very wealthy residents a stranglehold on our state and federal government. This must change.

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: Protect our Great Lakes from invasive species and shut down Line 5. Innovate and invest in the Natural Resources Trust Fund to put our most ecologically valuable land into the public trust for future generations to cherish. Utilize the best science and engineering we have to protect our fresh water resources and ensure every family has access to safe, affordable drinking water by preventing sewage discharges and instituting a state-wide lead testing and abatement program. Increase our renewable energy standards to 33% by 2030, 100% by 2050, and create a grant program to ensure our local governments can achieve too.

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

A: Make it right for the children of Flint by investing in pediatric literacy programs and universal preschool. Amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act and Ethnic Intimidation Act to include “sexual orientation and gender identity or expression”. Establish school programing and support staff to create a safe and welcoming environment for all students. Fund body cameras for our officers statewide and bolster our sensitivity training in new and innovative ways with the help of the NAACP, ACLU, etc. We also need to incentivize police departments to hold community conversations, so there is a healthy, open dialogue.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.