

Michigan State Representative District 81 **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)**

GARY R EISEN, Republican

Website: gary-eisen.com

Facebook: <http://Gary Eisen>

Twitter: twitter.com/no

Occupation / Current Position: Owner of Eisen Inc. Welding and fabrication

Education: High School, Community college, Technical Institute

Questions:

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

A: - no response -

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: - no response -

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

A: - no response -

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

A: - no response -

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: - no response -

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

A: - no response -

Joshua Rivard



Website: <https://rivardruns.org>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/rivardruns>

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Occupation / Current Position: Construction Worker

Education: B.A. in US History

Qualifications / Experience: Over the age of 21, currently live in the 81st district and am eligible to vote, and to answer the call of democracy.

Questions:

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

A: Education Reform- I will repeal the amendments of the 2017 Education Bill that removes pensions from our educators and ensuring that they are paid a fair wage to teach our young students. I will also make sure that the K-12 budget is not interfered with as it currently is. Voter Reform- I want to bring mail-in voting to the state of Michigan to ensure that workers, parents, the elderly, and the handicapped have just an easy and accessible time for voting as those that have the time to do so. Infrastructure Improvements- I believe marijuana legalization could be utilized to fund various infrastructure projects.

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: Ensuring that K-12 and post-secondary education come from the appropriate budgets as opposed to the current system where they Legalizing marijuana and utilizing half the revenue for education with a specific set of the budget set aside for drug and alcohol education for our students, along with ensuring that each school district has a mental health counselor in the building. Re-examining how we see schools as less as places for young people to learn, but as a community center for everyone to continue to further their education from skill trade classes to basic life skills classes.

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

A: For our economy to become resilient, we need to find workers to fill the growing skilled-trades labor gap. Repealing Right-to-Work legislation, reinstating prevailing wage, and strengthening unions to ensure that our working class has fair wages to attract people to move to the state. I will also work to not only repair our physical infrastructure, but our digital as well. By offering world-class, high speed internet to those in rural areas, or those who want to move to rural areas, can create an access point to the services they need to make living in these communities possible.

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

A: As a working class individual, I have found it extremely difficult to run for office without tons of financial backing from companies or PACs. I believe it is unethical for a politician to accept these types of donations and believe we need to reign in campaign spending on a state level to capture the voice of a wider range of candidates than just those that have the financial resources to, in some ways, buy an election. I also support the Citizens Not Politicians Ballot Initiative to end gerrymandering in our state. I will also push for legislation that brings mail-in voting to the state of Michigan.

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: .One of the best things we can do for the environment is to decrease the number of vehicles on the road. By increasing our freight capacity and offering a greater array of public transportation options, we can reduce our state's carbon footprint by offering alternative ways for individuals and goods to reach their destinations. By closing Line 5 without these options, the Upper Peninsula will face a devastating energy storage. Additionally, I want to create a central volunteer network that individuals can access to volunteer their time to keep their communities clean while also having their hours and skills logged.

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

A: I plan on standing with Representative Zemke who previously pushed for a bill to ban conversion therapy in our state. I will also work to ensure that we end the school-to-prison pipeline that only works to ensure that prisons profit off of lower income families and people of color. Additionally, I also think its important that we ensure that the wording in bills are not explicitly written to only apply to certain demographics, like the recent Medicaid working hours bill that was passed to target those in urban communities while exempting those in rural.

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