

Michigan State Representative District 94

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)**

RODNEY WAKEMAN, Republican



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

Occupation / Current Position: Funeral Director, Owner and Corporate Officer, Wakeman Funeral Home, Inc., Saginaw.

Education: Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw; Associate of Arts, Pre-Mortuary Science curriculum, Delta College, University Center, MI; Wayne State University School of Mortuary Science, Detroit.

Qualifications / Experience: 30-year licensed funeral director, owner of our 107-year-old firm since 1999. Appointed twice by Gov. Snyder (2011 and 2015) to our industry's state licensing board, its Chairman since 2015, working at the highest levels of our state government with Office of Attorney General, LARA, and BPL; President of the Michigan Funeral Directors Assoc. and Valley Lutheran High School Foundation.

Questions:

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

A: Michigan and the 94th District lost businesses, wages, jobs and people over 10 years ago to the poor economy. My priorities are economic and include positioning the state to attract new and expanding businesses. This will allow for hiring in new jobs and attracting families to Michigan. Secondly, we need to fill available trade jobs with qualified workers by partnering with industry to direct more attention to these careers at an earlier age. Businesses suffer under the growth-killing regulatory environment. My work has included eliminating duplicative and out-of-date rules that bog down government and waste money.

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: Our educational system needs to be able to match the needs of the ever-changing work environment. Schools today need to teach and develop students for jobs that are not yet in the marketplace. Included in this is the need to introduce students at an earlier age to the trades: electricians, plumbers, carpenters, and more. Many trade jobs pay excellent wages and without the high cost and student loan debt of a four-year degree. There are trade jobs available here in the 94th District but businesses are having a hard time filling them because of a lack of trained workers.

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

A: A specific plan to help attract new businesses, jobs and people to Michigan is to be able to compete with other states through a reasonable tax policy. In the economic downturn over 10 years ago, our state's income tax rate was raised from 3.9% to 4.35% in what was said at the time to be a "temporary" tax increase. I would like to finally make it a temporary hike by bringing the tax rate back to 3.9%, and putting money back into the pockets of hard working Michigan families.

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

A: Michigan's campaign finance laws are significant. As a matter of public record, candidates are required to submit timely reports, providing transparency for the benefit of the electorate. I support and encourage all registered voters to participate in the process of our democracy by selecting the candidate that will do the best job of representing them.

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: Everyone in Michigan should expect to be able to draw clean water and breathe clean air. Equally, measures already exist for the safe and reliable delivery of our important energy resources throughout Michigan. Any disruption in the distribution of needed fuel will shake up the market, causing an immediate demand spike and increased prices. Continuing to test and monitor safely without disruption is also being responsible to the people of Michigan.

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

A: The 94th District is home to great people who truly seek to help others, provide for their families, and work to have a better life than those before them. Our system allows for individuals and groups to identify problems and injustices and bring it to the government. We have seen this work throughout our country's history. Many such social and racial issues have been national issues. However, I will listen and provide help for the people in the district wherever possible.

DAVE ADAMS, Democrat



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

Twitter: twitter.com/Dave_Adams_1

Occupation / Current Position: Athletic Director at Swan Valley Schools

Education: St Charles High School 1991 graduate; B.A. Public Administration, MSU 1995 Teacher certified, SVSU 1998 Masters of Educational Leadership, SVSU 2002

Qualifications / Experience: St. Charles Township Trustee 1996-2000 former President of Swan Valley Education Association member of Saginaw County Land Bank Board member of Saginaw County Mosquito Abatement Commission Board member of Shields Lions Club member of Swan Valley Athletic Association

Questions:

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

A: 1. Growing good-paying jobs. Fight for middle-class workers and their right to collectively bargain. Increase STEM and skilled trades in our schools. Support tax policies that allow for the development and growth of small businesses. 2. Strengthening our public schools. See #1 above. Change the tone of the State's treatment of public schools and it's teachers by working with our schools, not against them. 3. Fixing our roads and bridges. Increase revenue sharing to local governments so they can prioritize needs regarding water/sewer/roads/bridges.

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: Improved outcomes in education will occur when all students have access to programs throughout their educational careers. Birth through 5 programs that include parent education will produce results throughout the K-12 years. College and other training needs to be affordable to middle-class families.

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

A: Make Michigan's business tax code inviting for small businesses. Repeal Right to Free Load laws. Support workers ability to collectively bargain for increased wages/benefits.

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

A: Support Voters not Politicians to end gerrymandering. Support full disclosure of all campaign contributions by all groups/organizations in all forms. Support making it easier for people to vote...such as "no reason absentee" voting.

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: Line 5 should be replaced ASAP. Safer alternatives would still allow the transmission of oil/gas across the Straits.

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

A: Support expansion of Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act. Support equal pay for women. Willing to look at reforming the manner in which we incarcerate individuals. Legalization of marijuana may help in this area.

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