

Michigan Governor

General Election: November 6, 2018

6 Candidates on the ballot

Duties: The state's executive powers are vested in the Governor.

Qualifications: A Governor must be at least 30 years of age and a registered voter in Michigan for at least four years. Governors may serve a maximum of two full terms.

Term: 4 years **Vote for ONE (1).**

BILL SCHUETTE, Republican (Lt. Governor: Lisa Posthumus Lyons)



Website: www.billschuette.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/SchuetteOnDuty

Occupation / Current Position: Attorney General of Michigan

Education: I am a graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and studied at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. I received my law degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law.

Qualifications / Experience: Before becoming Michigan's 53rd Attorney General, I served as a judge on the Michigan Court of Appeals, a State Senator representing the 35th District, Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, and as a United States Congressman. My experience means I understand our state and know how to work with the legislature, local leaders and other partners on needed reforms to advance Michigan.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: My top priority can be summed up in one word: growth. Michigan needs a growing population and growing paychecks to become one of the leading states in the country economically. I want to cut taxes and regulations at the state level. Additionally, I will focus on cutting auto insurance rates and fixing our 3rd grade reading scores, which are some of the lowest in the nation. My "GROW" (Great Readers On the Way) plan will prioritize literacy with a cabinet-level literacy director and more. Together these things will make Michigan more attractive to job creators and people, allowing our state to grow again.

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: I support policies that give families more great educational choices and make wise use of taxpayers' \$15 billion annual investment in our schools. My "GROW" plan will reverse Michigan's 15-year decline in reading scores with a cabinet-level literacy director, reading coaches in every elementary school, tutoring and summer reading programs. My "Paycheck Training Plan" will restore a balance between career and college preparation in our schools and foster apprenticeships in skilled trades and other fields. We should grade our schools A-F and reward high performing and improving schools with grants and incentives.

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

A: As governor, I will implement growth-friendly policies that make Michigan attractive to job creators and families and help rebuild our population. I will cut taxes and regulation at the state level I want to eliminate the Granholm income tax hike that has cost Michigan taxpayers \$8 billion. There isn't a problem facing Michigan today that couldn't be made better if we had more people living and working in Michigan. We need more people filling jobs and contributing the growth that will allow us to invest in better roads and improved infrastructure.

4. 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: Our Great Lakes are the crown jewels of Michigan and their safety and security is etched in the DNA of every Michigan resident. I support building a 4.5-mile-long utility tunnel in the Straits that puts all existing utility connections into one underground concrete tunnel which would protect the lines from hazards and would also contain possible spills. Michigan must maintain a regulatory climate that provides reliable and affordable energy. I support a review of energy policy to provide a mix of nuclear, clean coal, natural gas, renewables and to encourage more choices for businesses, consumers and families.

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: As attorney general I have established a strong record as being a voice for victims of human trafficking and sexual assault. I helped secure funding to test thousands of abandoned rape kits in Detroit and across the state and set up a special unit to prosecute human traffickers. I prosecuted Larry Nassar and he is behind bars for life. I also prosecuted Kevin Beverly, who threatened and intimidated his ex-wife from prison. As governor, I will continue this legacy of seeking justice for women.

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

A: As attorney general, I have consistently been a voice for victims, consumers and all Michiganders, because I believe everyone should be treated equally under the law, with dignity and respect. As governor, I will ensure such policies are practiced within my administration, and I will approach the laws and budgets I sign with the same standard in mind.

GRETCHEN WHITMER, Democrat (Lt. Governor: Garlin D Gilcrest II)



Website: gretchenwhitmer.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/gretchenwhitmer

Occupation / Current Position: Candidate for Governor

Education: Michigan State University College of Law Michigan State University, BA Communications

Qualifications / Experience: Michigan State Representative from the 69 th District 2000-2006; Michigan State Senator from the 23 rd District 2006-2015; Minority Leader of the Michigan Senate 2011-2015; Ingham County Prosecutor July 2016-December 2016

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: Fixing the roads by investing \$3 billion per year in the Rebuild Michigan Infrastructure Bank to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure, including water pipelines and expanding access to broadband. Making health care more affordable for families, like when I worked across the aisle to expand Medicaid to cover over 680,000 Michiganders. I'll take on Trump and Republicans who threaten our health coverage and protect people with pre-existing conditions. Making the first two years of college debt-free and funding more trade schools and skills training programs so Michiganders can get a good job and support their families.

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: The key to a good job is a good education. My Good Schools Now education plan will: put Michigan on a path to universal preschool; triple the number of literacy coaches in our schools; respect our educators and treat them as professionals instead of attacking them for Lansing's policy failures; expand career counseling and skilled trades training so every student has a path to a high-wage job, whether college is right for them or not; hold all schools to the same high proficiency standards – traditional and charter schools alike.

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

A: My Better Skills, Better Job plan focuses on raising household incomes by expanding education and skills training, investing in our infrastructure, aggressively pursuing economic development and supporting small business growth so that everyone has a path to a good job and a secure future. We must also raise the minimum wage to \$15 and enact strong paid family leave policies to help working families get ahead. My administration will also adopt strong Buy American, Buy Michigan policies to ensure more of our tax dollars go to Michigan businesses that hire Michigan workers.

4. 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: Diversifying Michigan's energy generation portfolio is good for our environment and our economy. I support increased investment in the renewable energy sector of the economy and the 92,000 Michigan jobs it supports. Michigan is home to 21% of the Earth's fresh water, and we've got to protect it. An oil spill in the Great Lakes would be an absolutely devastating blow to our environment and our economy. My administration will immediately file to enjoin the easement and begin the legal process for shutting down Line 5.

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: I have always been on the front lines fighting for women's rights. As Senate Democratic Leader, I shared my own story of surviving sexual assault to fight Republican efforts to erect more barriers for women in their health care. As Ingham County prosecutor, I established a new domestic violence unit, and I recently released a plan to combat sexual assault on campus. As governor, I will fight for equal pay and end pay disparities for women of color, enact earned paid sick leave, and ensure quality, affordable childcare, because the average cost of infant care in Michigan is too high.

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

A: We've got to level the playing field so the amount of money in your bank account does not determine the level of justice you receive. That's why as Prosecutor, I prioritized rehabilitation programs for nonviolent first-time offenders. As governor, I'm committed to building a diverse cabinet that represents every community in Michigan so every voice is heard. I support universal voter access, so everyone who is approved for a driver's license or state ID should be automatically registered to vote, and any registered voter should be able to vote absentee or by mail.

BILL GELINEAU, Libertarian (Lt. Governor: Angelique Chaiser Thomas)



Website: ComeTogetherMichigan.org

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/Gelineau4Governor/>

Occupation / Current Position: Owner and Licensed Title Agent for a Grand Rapids based real estate title insurance agency.

Education: Attended the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. Pre-law student majoring in English and Michigan History. Extensive professional certifications and currently hold a state license.

Qualifications / Experience: Read personal biography at: <https://liberty4gov.org/about-bill/>. This provides extensive personal background from growing up in Downriver Detroit to my long professional and political career in Michigan. All of that training provides a balanced perspective needed to develop cooperation in Lansing.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: 1) It is no accident that I chose the domain ComeTogetherMichigan.org as my campaign website. I believe that the election of a non-Democrat/Republican would send a strong message to the legislature to develop non-partisan consensus. 2) I would work diligently to reform the spending priorities in our state. I've identified several large areas - these include prison reform - where tremendous assets are wasted. Also, the elimination of corporate subsidies - which squeeze out necessary funding for roads, schools, and other priorities. 3) Mental health initiatives to ensure stable opportunities for all citizens.

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: The core of making changes is recognition of limited resources. Prison and business subsidy reform is an essential component of developing the resources to make other planned improvements possible. There won't be massive new revenues available. My priorities would include funding to return to 70/80's levels of student/counselor ratios. We need these objective "ombudsman" for students to provide perspective, support, and a safe place for students to reveal obstacles to success. Counselors would also become a key asset in our battles with suicide and opioid use. Also, expand parental engagement from K forward.

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

A: 1) My Drop-th-Cap initiative: <https://liberty4gov.org/drop-the-cap/>, is widely agreed by economists to provide confidence to investors to bring their companies to Michigan. It is vital to tell companies they won't be overtaxed. 2) By ending corporate welfare, we have the resources to invest in students to fill the high-skill positions available. 3) Legalization of cannabis. There are massive opportunities in the agricultural and industrial sectors in which our farms and business can provide leadership and high-margin success.

4. 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: These intertwined issues require more than 625 characters. A good starting place is the position paper on our website: <https://liberty4gov.org/environmental-policy/>. I've outline the creation of an Evaluation Board which could recommend areas forever "off limits", such as the Straits. However, the most important matter is finding the revenues to clean up all the toxic sites in Michigan. Nobody else in the race has proposed a plan such as the IFT expansion explained on my site. I'm also the only candidate putting the "HOW" into a clean energy future. Again, with limited space, you should check out my website.

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: I don't believe it is the role of the government to provide special status or ensure anything other than equal opportunity to any group. However, as Governor, I will enforce the laws of the State to make sure discrimination or other systemic biases are eliminated. As a father with daughters and grand-daughters, my efforts will always be to ensure a FULL and EQUAL opportunity for them to compete in the workplace, free of institutional discrimination. I believe we should eliminate the income tax on those under 25 and below \$25,000/yr. income to help lift women and children out of poverty.

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

A: 1) The legalization of marijuana - consequences of which have fallen hard on many minority communities. 2) I've pledged to commute the sentences of all drug offenders who have not committed a violent crime. 3) I will work to amend Elliot-Larsen to include transgender persons. Everyone has the right to enjoy the full benefits of citizenship. 4) Investigation and prosecution of abusive police practices - and the elimination of military-style SWAT teams and use of military vehicles as everyday common practice. 5) I will appoint a cabinet of qualified people that reflect all the faces and communities of Michigan.

TODD SCHLEIGER, U.S. Taxpayers (Lt. Governor: Earl P Lackie)



Website: checktodd.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/toddschleiger

Occupation / Current Position: Driver/ Fleet Manager

Education: High School Online Business classes

Qualifications / Experience: I manage equipment under federal guidelines along with 23 drivers. I deal with customers on daily basis, whether good or bad I have settle their complaints with compromises or a remedy of other sorts. Such as a refund or credit towards their next load of product.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: I would have to say exactly what I have been saying for the last 3 years. Lowering Auto Insurance up to 70%. I have a plan to lower Health Insurance Premiums by up to 50%, and creating 500,000 new jobs in Michigan. Between infrastructure, legalized cannabis, solar and wind generation, roads, and environmental this all in 4 years.

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: I am the only candidate that comes to the table with a 20 billion dollar budget. Broken down as the following 1.2 billion towards bringing 2 years of community college into the public school realm, this would include trade schools and vocational schools. 17.8 billion into pre-k and k-12 bringing a minimum pay to any teachers through out the state of 60,000 dollars, putting more money to the classrooms than the administrations. That leaves 1 billion to bring our schools into a more efficient and safe standards, such as protecting our children by hardening our school buildings and more police on site.

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

A: Between my restructuring of our complete tax system, and the creation of 500,000 new jobs in my four years we will move Michigan forward as a leader in cyber and manufacturing along with renewable energy. By cutting and removing certain taxes that overlap or burden our businesses, creating a three tier income tax that will benefit 80% of the working people of Michigan putting more money back into their paychecks. We all know if we have more money, we spend more money.

4. 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: The answer to Enbridge Pipeline 5 is simple and straight forward, it has to go. Know amount of insurance or promises can pay for a devastating leak if it were to occur. We are the stewards of the land and must do all that we can to support it, that is why I will mandate an increase in percentages to renewable energy to 33% by 2025. By bringing back the Public Works and forcing the utilities to comply without substantial rate increases, they have profited billions on the people and can afford to spend more of their profits. This field alone will create over 100,000 new jobs. Even more if we include infrastructure needs

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: This is a hard question to answer, for the issues that are being seen are more towards where salaries are negotiated than at a starting job say at a factory. I would mandate that where a company must start all its employees at the same rates per hour or salary, equal pay for equal work. If the employee has worked at a job equally as long as another employee whether male or female should be making the same wage as long as they have had the same training as the other. Example a skill trades person should make more than John Doe of the street if hired into the same job

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

A: I will bring back the Common Law Grand Jury or also known as The Peoples Grand Jury, This will empower the people to literally remove an official who has taken an oath of office to defend our Constitution. Judges, police enforcement, elected officials who abuse their powers granted by the people will think before they act on violating the peoples rights. Judge Antonin Scalia wrote the Peoples Grand Jury is a fourth branch of government belonging only to the people, not to answer to the other three branches in 2005. This will promote social and racial justice in our state.

JENNIFER V KURLAND, Green (Lt. Governor: Charin H Davenport)



Website: www.kurland4michigan.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/kurland4mi>

Twitter: twitter.com/kurland4mi

Occupation / Current Position: Radio Personality - The Offensive Feminist with Jenny K - currently on hiatus

Education: Associate's Degree, Liberal Arts, with Honors - Schoolcraft College
Bachelor's Degree, Political Science Public Affairs - Wayne State University

Qualifications / Experience: Redford Union School Board elected 2012 term of 2013 - 2018, served as President for 3 1/2 years, current Treasurer. Elections pollworker/chairperson since 2006. Appointed - Redford Township Festival Committee since 2012, served as Secretary for 2 years. Redford Jaycees - multiple executive positions, 60th President. Michigan Junior Chamber - District 4 Director, 2015.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: Flint, Public Education, and Prisons/Policing. Flint is the canary in the coalmine for our crumbling water and sewer infrastructure on top of our crumbling roads and bridges. We need to replace all lead water lines statewide. We must properly fund public education, earmark general fund money for Pre-K-12, and include funding for infrastructure, curriculum, and technology. We must end the war on drugs and mass incarceration. Ending solitary confinement, raising the age for prosecution of minors, requiring community policing, and ending the cash bail system will help fix our broken criminal justice system.

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 must bring technology to all classrooms around the state, and fund professional development for teachers. We must properly fund school infrastructure and fund early childhood opportunities. We can make public colleges and then public universities free for all Michiganders while expanding college and trade opportunities to high school students. We must end the for-profit charter school system and school of choice, both of which has been increasing segregation in our schools. We must properly fund a statewide ALICE program, end abstinence-only education, and stop the school to prison pipeline.

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

A: We must increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr immediately, and permanently fix the minimum wage to other indicators like inflation, housing, and food costs. Climate change is real and green jobs are the jobs of the future. We can put our tradespeople to work making wind farms, solar panels, and becoming innovators of hydro power. We must transition to a more diverse economy by creating grants for Michiganders who wish to start new businesses without personal capital. The legalization of marijuana and subsequent ability for our state to grow industrial hemp will also create new economic opportunities and industries.

4. 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: We must completely transition over to clean, green, renewable energy. We can fully meet our energy needs with wind, solar, and hydropower. We must charge the full cost of pollution permits to include the health effects to the public, cleanup, and require full disclosure of all chemicals and pollutants released. We must immediately shut down and decommission Enbridge Line 5, and halt all current pipeline projects for future, stringent environmental assessments before future approvals or completion of any pipeline projects. We need to recombine the DEQ and DNR, and create legislation to allow for permit denials.

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: We must increase the minimum wage to \$15/hr. We need to end abstinence-only education and begin teaching age-appropriate consent to all students. We have the ability to create legislation that will end the wage-gap in Michigan, and we must enshrine equal rights for all into our state constitution. We must fully protect abortion rights as part of women's health care, and end the "women tax" on items like sanitary products. It is imperative that we treat the LGBTQIA community with equal protection, including housing rights, job protection, adoption rights, and health care.

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

A: We must give the Michigan Civil Rights Commission teeth. This includes expanding Elliot Larson to include all LGBTQIA citizens, and the ability to have some level of enforcement capabilities. We must end the drug war, end the cash bail system, and transform our prisons and police policies to those of community policing. We must work to end gentrification by requiring community benefit agreements to coincide with local business tax breaks, create new economic opportunities for those in impoverished communities with a grant program for small business and fix inequities in public education.

KEITH BUTKOVICH, Natural Law (Lt. Governor: Raymond Warner)

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

Occupation / Current Position: Retail Management

Qualifications / Experience: Common sense

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three priorities for the State of Michigan and how would you address them?*

A: Reduce auto insurance costs by eliminating no fault and other requirements. I would also make carrying insurance optional, as the government should not be able to force you to buy anything. Eliminate the income and property taxes, then the sales tax, and other charges. Taxation is theft. Legalize drugs, not just marijuana and alcohol, without taxation. Stop jailing people for victimless crimes.

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: Part of the problem is the federal Department of Education, which I would constantly lobby to remove their regulations forced upon the state. I would eliminate state regulations, allowing education to return to the local level and the people. Other options, such as online school, home school, etc would be encouraged instead of pushing a government school program. Post-secondary would not be subsidized by the taxpayers. This would force these institutions to cut costs and remove bloated administrations.

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

A: Let people keep the money they have earned. Taxation is theft. I would also remove burdensome regulations on businesses. The economy will explode because government will be out of the way.

4. 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: Common sense. Don't dump into streams and rivers. The government is one of if not the largest polluters, so reducing government would be a major key in this. The officials involved in Flint, both local and state, should be sued if the people choose to go that route. No immunity. Pipeline 5 needs to be repaired. I would not ban pipelines and drilling, provided they are safe and companies clean up any problems they may cause. The residents would be the ones who could sue. I would not ban nuclear energy.

5. EQUALITY: *What, if any, specific steps will you take to address inequalities facing women in Michigan?*

A: People should have to stand on their own merits. Sex, race, religion, etc should not be a factor in any hiring. I am against affirmative action. Smart employer realize this, and would not underpay someone just because they are a woman or otherwise, because they know good people are in demand by many companies.

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

A: Government should get out of marriage. Adults should be allowed to marry who they wish, and however many people they wish. A marriage license is just another tax. All people should be treated equally in court. Police officers should not be given special treatment just because they wear a uniform. Murder is wrong, no matter who commits it. Self defense must be thoroughly proven in court.

Michigan Lt. Governor

General Election: November 6, 2018

6 Candidates on the ballot

Candidates for Lt. Governor are nominated at their party convention to run as a team with the candidate for Governor (one vote to elect both).

Duties: There are three main duties assigned to the Lieutenant Governor:

- (1) to serve as acting Governor while the Governor is out of state;
- (2) to become Governor in the event that the Governor is unable to serve due to death, illness or incapacitation; and
- (3) to preside over the Michigan Senate.

Qualifications: A Lt. Governor must be at least 30 years of age and a registered voter in Michigan for at least four years.

Term: 4 years Lt. Governors may serve a maximum of two full terms.

LISA POSTHUMUS LYONS, Republican
Running Mate of Bill Schuette

GARLIN D GILCREST II, Democrat
Running Mate of Gretchen Whitmer



ANGELIQUE CHAISER THOMAS, Libertarian
Running Mate of Bill Gelineau

Website: www.liberty4gov.org

Occupation / Current Position: Chief Operating Officer

Education: B.S. Political Science - University of Detroit Mercy; J.D. University of Detroit Mercy School of Law; MBA - Northwestern University; Certificate in Change Management - Michigan State University

Qualifications / Experience: Deeply versed in Public Policy, Michigan Law, and Administrative Systems.

EARL P LACKIE, U.S. Taxpayers
Running Mate of Todd Schleiger

CHARIN H DAVENPORT, Green
Running Mate of Jennifer Kurland

RAYMOND WARNER, Natural Law
Running Mate of Keith Butkovich

Occupation / Current Position: Retired

Education: Graduated Redford Union 1965 Attended Highland Park College and Wayne State University

Qualifications / Experience: Twenty years of civil service Political activist since 1964