

Primary Election: August 7, 2018
Michigan State Senate District 12
Candidates: 4 Republicans + 1 Democrat + 1 Libertarian
Vote in one political party's primary only.

Duties: The Michigan Senate shares responsibility with the Michigan House of Representatives to enact new laws and amend or repeal existing laws.

Qualifications: State Senators may serve a maximum of two full terms. They must be at least 21 years of age and a registered voter in their district. There are 38 State Senate districts which are re-apportioned after each census.

Term: 4 years VOTE for ONE (1)

MICHAEL D McCREADY, Republican
Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

VERNON MOLNAR, Republican
Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

JIM TEDDER, Republican



Website: www.betterwithtedder.com

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

Twitter: twitter.com/jimtedder

Occupation / Current Position: State Representative, 43rd House District; Small Business Owner

Education: B.A. Political Science and Cinematic Arts, Central Michigan University; Master of Business Administration, Oakland University; Post-Baccalaureate Teaching Certificate, Eastern Michigan University

Qualifications / Experience: State Representative (2 terms), Associate Speaker Pro Tempore, Chair of House Tax Policy Committee, Vice Chair of Health Policy Committee; Small Business Owner (31+ years); Teacher & Administrator at Clarkston Community Schools (11 years); Lecturer at Oakland University (4 years); Board Member at Clarkston Foundation for Public Education; Member of Clarkston, Orion, and Oxford Chambers of Commerce

Questions:

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

A: My top three priorities will be continuing to stand up for taxpayers, fixing our roads without raising taxes, and limiting the size of government. We can accomplish these by repealing the "temporary" tax increase on hard-working families and force government to live within its means, just like you and I must do. We need to demand that politicians quit making excuses and dedicate more money to fix our deteriorating roads, without raising taxes. We will continue our fight against government overreach by eliminating job-killing regulations.

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: As a former educator, my first and primary focus is to make decisions that are in the best interest of children. I've consistently voted to provide schools with the most funding in state history to ensure every child has access to a quality education. I've opposed Common Core since Day One and advocated for parents and local school districts to have more control over the education of their children. I've also passed legislation that addresses current substitute teacher shortages across Michigan and reduces inefficient requirements for both students and teachers.

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

A: While the state has made significant progress in the past few years, but there is still plenty of work to be done. I look forward to continuing my efforts to make Michigan more competitive for job providers, keep more money in the paychecks of hard-working families, and ensure our workforce has the proper training for the jobs already available. We can accomplish these things by reducing taxes, specifically the “temporary” tax increase on our income, repealing unnecessary regulations on job creators, and improving our skilled trades training programs.

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

A: I strongly support transparency in all aspects of government and a firm believer in the quarterly campaign finance filings candidates must submit to ensure voters know where these committees obtain their funding. I also support Michigan’s policies promoting access to the ballot, which includes low filing fees and the ability to collect signatures as an alternative to paying the fee.

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: Of course, we must continue to be good stewards of the environment and I have a strong legislative record in support of protecting it. To that end, I support efforts to increase the transparency in DEQ’s rule-making process, which has long been a source of frustration for many. I believe that the DEQ has adequate funding to carry out rules enforcement; like the individuals and families across the state, every government agency must also live within its means.

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

A: As a parent and former educator, I have long stood against bigotry and hatred at all levels. I believe that providing people with proper training to enter the workforce and ensuring that there is a job for every person that wants one is key to promoting success.

TERRY WHITNEY, Republican Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion

ROSEMARY BAYER, Democrat



Website: <https://www.rosemarybayer.com/>

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Twitter: twitter.com/rosemarybayer

Occupation / Current Position: Software Engineer and Business Owner

Education: Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Math from Central Michigan University MBA with Distinction from Lawrence Technological University

Qualifications / Experience: Computer software engineer and engineering / business manager for 30 years. Led global automotive division for Sun Microsystems; then co-founded ardentCause, L3C, a small company, providing innovative data systems and technology services to nonprofit sector. Co-founded the Michigan Council of Women in Technology (www.mcwt.org); serve on multiple nonprofit and local government boards.

Questions:

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

A: Equitable Education -Non-legislative experts -Sensible testing -Leverage technology -Restructure funding Healthy Communities -Affordable healthcare: Expand Healthy MI; senior support; build addiction and mental health programs; eliminate Medicaid work requirement -Stop Gun violence: background checks, red flag laws, storage requirements, fix licensing loopholes -Community revenue-sharing for public safety -Environmental protection Trustworthy Infrastructure: roads, bridges, pipes (water, sewer, oil, etc), broadband & electrical grid. Multi-year goals and plans with new technology to stop high cost all-crisis

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: -Listen to Michigan education experts i (ie. Funding Collaborative) and states who have come back; cease listening to those with no educational expertise -Eliminate excessive testing (schools lose 3-4 months teaching time to testing) -Set effective goals; patiently assess outcome changes before pivoting -Leverage new technology for content delivery and evaluation and to reduce costs through systemic efficiencies -Ensure equitable access to free quality public education (pre-K through post-12th grade) enabling career level, degree/certification achievement and job attainment at a living wage (one job per person).

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

A: -Free quality education providing skills to pay a living wage, producing tax-paying workforce, not needing extensive social support -Remove legislation punishing the poor, help people while reducing administrative costs with no positive return -Implement government as last-resort employer -Single payor health insurance, eliminating for-profit insurance overhead and cost to people and providers -Repeal pension tax -Reinvigorate unions and support for the MI middle class; repeal right to work, return prevailing wage and fix other union-crushing -legislation -Increase minimum wage to "living wage", tied to inflation

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

A: I support Promote the Vote and increased access to voting including: -Absentee voting for any reason -Statewide vote by mail -Registration up to election day -Automatic registration while doing Sec of State business -Straight party voting -Right to audit I support campaign finance reform and will work to: -Require disclosure of all contributions via any path including PACs; maintain restrictions per candidate by role -Restrict the amount any candidate can spend in a cycle -Restrict the time a candidate can spend campaigning I favor eliminating term limits or lengthening the actual terms to enable real work

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 support environmental regulations to: -Protect lakes/rivers from pollutants (including ag runoff), invasive species, pipeline failure, moving fossil fuels, dangerous substances; and sewer system failure, & storm system overload. -Increase air pollutant restrictions; strictly manage plant emissions -Increase clean energy including carbon tax programs, mandated clean energy vs fossil fuels; and government solar and other tech investment/incentives. -Halt Enbridge Line 5 until implementation of plan to replace aging,damaged pipelines. Ban pipelines running through lakes/rivers, risking 20% of the world's fresh water.

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

A: I support equal rights,regardless of race, color, religion, sexual orientation or any arbitrary difference. I will work for equitable: -education, including lifting poor public school systems to the same level as the wealthiest -employment opportunity/equal pay for all -housing, insurance, marriage, domestic partners' benefits -freedom from fear of harassment and incarceration because of racial or other bias. I will pursue legislation to promote equal treatment of all; fight to eliminate legislation restricting any group's rights; including a Michigan anti-discrimination bill and efforts to eliminate systemic racism

JEFF PITTEL, Libertarian



Website: jeffpittel4mi.org

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Occupation / Current Position: Engineer

Education: B.S. Mechanical Engineering - Univ. of Michigan M.S. Mechanical Engineering - Univ. of Michigan

Qualifications / Experience: I have worked in Private Industry in a number of roles including Engineering Management, Plant Management and Program Management. In these roles I have been responsible for setting and maintaining budgets, authoring and implementing procedures and policies, delivering products within a prescribed timeline, and determining appropriate staffing and personnel levels.

Questions:

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

A: Education funding constitutes the majority of the State budget and our State ranks near the bottom of educational outcome and attainment in the Nation, I would advocate solutions as outlined below. The State's infrastructure is an impediment to business, quality of life and tourism, therefore I would propose that user fees (e.g., tolls) be implemented to fund and maintain the infrastructure. As the center of the Great Lakes, environmental stewardship is a critical State function and the State should determine and monitor the level of permissible contaminants in the water, air and soil.

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: Parents and Legal Guardians should be free to determine the educational path of their children via Public schools, Charter Schools, Parochial Schools, Home Schooling, Apprenticeship programs offered by Skilled Trade Groups, or any combination thereof, and should be provided Educational Vouchers to use for this purpose. The State's role should be to define the standardized testing regime at appropriate Grade levels to quantify the effectiveness of these educational entities and certify the eligibility of said entities to receive the Education Vouchers. The State should also determine the criteria for secondary scho

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

A: I would remove most State Occupational Licensing and allow professional organizations to certify their own members per their own criteria. Employer mandates dictating employee benefits, wages and employment conditions should be repealed to encourage job growth and improve businesses ability to hire and terminate employment. Employer's regulatory burden should be reduced to improve businesses competitive position relative to other States. Employees should be free to form labor Unions to provide collective bargaining and immigration should be encouraged to alleviate labor shortages.

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

A: I support increasing the election participation rate of the citizenry by allowing early voting and expansion of absentee voting. I also support efforts to eliminate gerrymandering by ending partisan redistricting and advocate ranked choice voting to break the electoral duopoly resulting from the existing voting regime. I would permit political parties to nominate candidates for the General Election through their own conventions and procedures outside a subsidized Primary process and would abolish Campaign Finance Laws which require funding disclosure. Petition circulation time should be extended beyond 6 months.

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: The State has an obligation to mitigate environmental damage to the waters and groundwaters of the Great Lakes Basin. As sewage overflows and storm + agricultural run-off constitute the greatest threat to water quality, the State should increase user fees to replace aging sewer systems and monitor, enforce, and penalize those responsible for environmental contamination. Taxes on fertilizers and other potential contaminants should be considered to discourage use and provide funding for aforementioned activities. Despite safe record, Enbridge Line 5 should be decommissioned due to inherent risk.

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

A: Current vice laws and their enforcement disproportionately target poor and minorities, therefore I advocate the repeal of all laws criminalizing gambling, the possession and sale of drugs and alcohol, and sexual relations between consenting adults. Alcohol and drug addiction should be treated as a health issue, and all civil asset forfeiture should be abolished. The right of trial by jury should be allowed in all civil and criminal cases and said juries should be granted the right to acquit defendants of laws which they deem unjust, oppressive or inappropriately applied.

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