

# Primary Election: August 7, 2018

## U. S. Congress District 14 – Michigan

**Candidates: 1 Republican + 1 Democrat**

**Vote in one political party's primary only.**

**Duties:** U. S. Representatives share the responsibility with Senators for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Laws that require payment of taxes are initiated in the House of Representatives.

**Qualifications:** A Representative must be at least 25 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 7 years. There are 435 Representatives based on Congressional districts reapportioned after each census. Michigan has 14 districts as of 2012.

**Term: 2 years VOTE for ONE (1).**

**MARC S HERSCHFUS, Republican**  
**Did Not Respond in Time for Inclusion**

**BRENDA LAWRENCE, Democrat**



**Website:** [www.brendalawrence.com](http://www.brendalawrence.com)

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/brendalawrenceforcongress>

**Twitter:** [twitter.com/BrendaLLawrence](https://twitter.com/BrendaLLawrence)

**Occupation / Current Position:** Member of Congress, Michigan's 14th Congressional District

**Education:** Graduate, Central Michigan University; Bachelor of Arts, Public Administration Studied at University of Detroit-Mercy Graduate, Pershing High School, Detroit Completed Leadership Oakland Program

**Qualifications / Experience:** Member of Congress, 2015 to Present; Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Oversight and Government Reform Committee; Senior Whip, Black Caucus Executive Board; Caucus Leadership Mayor of Southfield, 2001 to 2015 Southfield City Councilwoman, one term (served in multiple council leadership roles) Southfield School Board Trustee, one term (served in multiple school board leadership roles)

### Questions:

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

**A:** It is an honor to represent Michigan in Congress and fight for our priorities. I've been able to get results in my first few years. The three biggest issues I'll be tackling in the next Congress are rebuilding our nation's crumbling infrastructure, increasing Michigan's share of federal road funding and transportation investments, and further workforce development and training opportunities. I serve on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and am a founding Co-Chair of the Congressional Skilled Workforce Caucus -- through those roles, I intend to get even more results for Michigan and our workers.

**2. IMMIGRATION:** *What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. immigration policy?*

**A:** This is an issue I take very seriously. As a Member of Congress, I have ensured that my staff here in Michigan are well-versed and prepared to assist constituents with any difficulties they face with federal agencies, especially those encountering immigration challenges. Our office has helped hundreds of constituents navigate the complex issues related to immigration, which includes passports, and I pledge to keep working to make those resources available. I am committed to supporting DREAMers remain in our country. I have also vocally opposed the inhumane, unjust White House policy of family separation at the border.

**3. HEALTH CARE:** *What are your concerns and plans regarding U.S. health care policies and programs, including those affecting maternal and child health?*

**A:** I support the Affordable Care Act and the Medicaid expansion policies. I have voted numerous times in Congress to defend the Affordable Care Act. My decision on federal spending votes was also greatly influenced by the dire need for Community Health Centers funding for their survival in Detroit. I will continue to fight for them, as well as progressive expansion of the federal health care programs that have had dramatic, positive impacts on Americans' lives: Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Affordable Care Act. Preexisting conditions, including maternity, should remain protected.

**4. ECONOMY:** *What federal policies do you support to help members of all strata of the American public improve their economic positions?*

**A:** Michiganders are working harder, yet, still not getting ahead. I support increasing wages, and oppose the state Prevailing Wage repeal. I want stronger worker protections, stronger wage and benefits standards, and stronger environmental protections in a new NAFTA agreement. Having said that, our trade relationships with our allies are a big deal and President Trump's reckless attacks on Canada have me very concerned. Canada is Michigan's biggest trading partner. Attacking economic ties with Canada is attacking Michigan's economy. Our workers don't need that kind of "friendly fire" from our own White House.

**5. ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY:** *What policies do you support to meet U.S. energy needs while protecting our water, air and land for current and future generations? Explain how those actions or policies would affect the future of the Great Lakes.*

**A:** Protecting our Great Lakes is a big deal. As a Member of Congress, I joined all of our Michigan delegation in a successful, bipartisan effort to restore budget funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Fund that the White House has zeroed out. More recently, our Michigan congressional delegation has collaborated again to advocate for the funding needed to modernize the Soo Locks in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. That long-overdue infrastructure project has both economic and environmental ramifications. I am an advocate for renewal energy sources and I also oppose the regulatory rollbacks of the EPA Administrator.

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

**A:** Americans deserve better when it comes to our democratic process. In Congress, I have fought for a renewal of the Voting Rights Act, which has expired. We should also make Election Day a national holiday to allow more working citizens the ability to vote. Here in Michigan, I do support the statewide ballot proposal to reform the redistricting process. The citizens should determine who represents them; the legislators should not be able to selfishly scheme to determine who they will represent in their districts. Our state should also modernize by allowing absentee voting for all citizens regardless of their reason.

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