

2018 Michigan Voter Guide



Branch County

a publication of Michigan Family Forum

STATEWIDE RACES



Governor

		Right To Life	Planned Parenthood	United Auto Workers	MI Chamber of Commerce	Citizens for Traditional Values	Sierra Club	Michigan Farm Bureau	American Federation of Teachers
(R) Bill Schuette billschuette.com		YES			YES	YES		YES	
(D) Gretchen Whitmer gretchenwhitmer.com			YES	YES			YES		YES

Attorney General

(R) Tom Leonard leonardforag.com		YES			YES	YES		YES	
(D) Dana Nessel www.dana2018.com			YES	YES			YES		YES

See “Endorsing Organizations” page for a description of endorsements.

STATEWIDE RACES



Secretary of State

		Right To Life	Planned Parenthood	United Auto Workers	MI Chamber of Commerce	Citizens for Traditional Values	Sierra Club	Michigan Farm Bureau	American Federation of Teachers
(R) Mary Treder-Lang marytrederlangforsos.com		YES			YES	YES		YES	
(D) Jocelyn Benson votebenson.com			YES	YES			YES		YES

US Senator

(R) John James johnjamesforsenate.com		YES			YES	YES			
(D) Debbie Stabenow (Incumbent) debbiestabenow.com			YES	YES			YES	YES	YES

See “Endorsing Organizations” page for a description of endorsements.

STATEWIDE RACES



MI Supreme Court

		Right To Life	Planned Parenthood	United Auto Workers	MI Chamber of Commerce	Citizens for Traditional Values	Sierra Club	Michigan Farm Bureau	American Federation of Teachers
Elizabeth Clement (Incumbent) clementforjustice.com <i>Nominated by Republican Party</i>		YES			YES		YES		
Kurtis Wilder (Incumbent) wilderforjustice.com <i>Nominated by Republican Party</i>		YES			YES		YES		
Megan Cavanagh www.cavanaghforsupremecourt.com <i>Nominated by Democratic Party</i>			YES	YES					YES
Sam Bagenstos www.bagenstosforjustice.com <i>Nominated by Democratic Party</i>			YES	YES					YES

See “Endorsing Organizations” page for a description of endorsements.

UNITED STATES HOUSE



District, Party, Name	Right To Life	Planned Parenthood	United Auto Workers	MI Chamber of Commerce	Citizens for Traditional Values	Sierra Club	Michigan Farm Bureau	American Federation of Teachers	Candidate Webpage
7 (R) Tim Walberg (Incumbent)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	www.walbergforcongress.com
(D) Gretchen Driskell		YES						YES	votedriskell.com

See “Endorsing Organizations” page for a description of endorsements.

MICHIGAN SENATE



District, Party, Name	Right To Life	Planned Parenthood	United Auto Workers	MI Chamber of Commerce	Citizens for Traditional Values	Sierra Club	Michigan Farm Bureau American Federation of Teachers	Candidate Webpage
16 (R) Mike Shirkey (Incumbent) (D) Val Cochran Toops	YES		YES	YES		YES	www.mikeshirkey.com www.votevalcochrantoops.com	

See “Endorsing Organizations” page for a description of endorsements.

BALLOT PROPOSALS



Michigan Family Forum urges you to vote “NO” on Proposal 18-1

Proposal 18-1

A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailer

Why Vote “NO”?

Driving fatalities due to marijuana impairment have increased in states where marijuana is legal. Since marijuana’s legalization in Colorado, marijuana-related traffic deaths have more than doubled. Drugged driving went from killing roughly one person every 6.5 days to now killing someone every 2.9 days. (Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area)

Auto insurance rates will skyrocket. A 2018 article in the Denver Post revealed that insurance rates increased twice as much in states where recreational marijuana was legal as in states that did not legalize marijuana use. Michigan auto insurance rates are already among the highest in the nation. Legalizing recreational marijuana and effectively creating more auto accidents will cause auto insurance premiums to increase for all Michigan residents.

Michigan will be known as “The Marijuana Capital” with the highest marijuana possession limits and the lowest tax rates (10%) on marijuana. Everyone over the age of 21 can legally possess 2.5 ounces in person, 10 ounces at home, 12 plants at home and 15 grams of extract. One ounce of marijuana can produce 30-50 joints. Individual growers can consume their own marijuana or give it away but they cannot legally sell it.

Legalization is big business. This is a business investment for the marijuana industry which needs a new generation of dependent drug users to increase their profits.

The proposal prohibits the state from limiting the number of commercial licenses. Anyone over the age of 21 can purchase a Class C license for 2,000 plants, a Class B license for 500 plants, or a Class A license for 100 plants. While novice growers typically get up to 4 oz. of marijuana per plant per harvest, experienced growers can get up to 1 lb. of marijuana per plant. An experienced grower with a Class C license could grow up to 2,000 lbs. of marijuana per harvest and have more than one harvest per year.

The proposal requires the state to target vulnerable communities with marijuana businesses. Michigan is required to develop “a plan to promote and encourage participation in the marihuana industry by people from communities that have been disproportionately impacted by marihuana prohibition and enforcement and to positively impact those communities.” (Sec. 8.1.j)

BALLOT PROPOSALS - Continued



Proposal 18-2

A proposed constitutional amendment to establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years

Proposal 18-3

A proposal to authorize automatic and Election Day voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, and straight ticket voting; and add current legal requirements for military and overseas voting and postelection audits to the Michigan Constitution

ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS



The following statewide and national organizations have publicly posted on the Internet their endorsement of one of the candidates for public office. We have provided the websites for more information about the organization and their endorsement. The description of each organization was taken directly from the organization's website. Endorsements listed were those available at the time we published our guide on September 28. Additional candidates may have been endorsed since that date and we will attempt to update our guide as appropriate.

Right to Life of Michigan

The Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee (RLM-PAC) was established...with the express directive to endorse candidates for political office who...would be the best and most effective voice for the unborn.

Web: www.rtl.org • **Endorsements:** www.rtl.org/endorsements/endorsement_criteria.html • **Phone:** (616) 532-2300

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan

Planned Parenthood's endorsements help "cut through the noise and give you the best options for candidates that will support family planning decisions with medically accurate information, access to contraceptives, sex education, and safe & legal abortion."

Web: miplannedparenthood.org • **Endorsements:** <http://miplannedparenthood.org/endorsements> • **Phone:** (517) 482-1080

Citizens for Traditional Values

"CTV has a 30-year history of preserving, protecting and promoting traditional values. The sanctity of life, parental rights, traditional marriage, limited government and religious freedom are of utmost importance to us and to our friends and supporters."

Web: www.ctvmichigan.org • **Endorsements:** www.ctvmichigan.org/pac • **Phone:** (517) 321-1390

Sierra Club

Sierra Club "is the statewide voice for the nation's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization...Our members care about clean water and air, wild biodiversity, and a safe energy future..."

Web: www.sierraclub.org/michigan • **Endorsements:** www.sierraclub.org/michigan/democracy-action • **Phone:** (517) 484-2372

ENDORISING ORGANIZATIONS



Chamber of Commerce

“Since 1959, the Michigan Chamber has been a leader in business advocacy...The Michigan Chamber has a long tradition of standing up for job providers in our state; and in 1977, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee (PAC) was formed to actively support candidates who are pro-business.”

Web: www.michamber.com • **Endorsements:** <https://www.michamber.com/pac> • **Phone:** (517) 371-7654

Michigan Farm Bureau

AgriPac evaluates and endorses the candidates who will best support Farm Bureau policy and agriculture.

Web: www.michfb.com • **Endorsements:** www.michfb.com/MI/endorsements • **Phone:** 517-323-7000

United Auto Workers

The UAW “is one of the largest and most diverse unions in North America, with members in virtually every sector of the economy...the UAW has consistently developed innovative partnerships with employers and negotiated industry-leading wages and benefits for its members...the UAW has been a leader in the struggle to secure economic and social justice for all people.”

Web: uaw.org • **Endorsements:** uawendorsements.org/official-endorsement/michigan • **Phone:** 313-926-5000

American Federation of Teachers

AFT Michigan promotes public education, strengthens worker voice, advances the institutions in which our members work, and builds a progressive movement committed to achieving these goals.

Web: aftmichigan.org • **Endorsements:** aftmichigan.org/2018-endorsed-candidates • **Phone:** 202-879-4400

VOTING SELECTIONS

For your convenience, you may wish to write the names of the candidates you plan to vote for in the blanks below.

Governor

Attorney General

Secretary of State

US Senate

MI Supreme Court (select two names)

US House

State Senate

State House

Ballot Proposal 18-1

YES NO

Ballot Proposal 18-2

YES NO

Ballot Proposal 18-3

YES NO

Remember to vote
Tuesday,
November 6!

SUPPORT US!

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone:

(Required for credit card donations)

Please send me to your weekly e-newsletter, Forum Online

Email:

I wish to donate: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500

I have enclosed a check or money order.

Please charge my credit card. *Please be sure to fill out contact information above and card information below.*

Card: _____ Exp: ____/____

Signature *(Required)*: _____

Mail to: Michigan Family Forum

PO Box 15216
Lansing, MI 48901

info@michiganfamily.org

www.michiganfamily.org