

*Michigan Family Forum presents:*

# MICHIGAN | 2008 VOTER GUIDE | 8

November 4<sup>th</sup> General Election Guide

*Kent County*

**MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM**

*Sound Public Policy for Stronger Michigan Families*

PO Box 15216, LANSING, MICHIGAN, 48901-5216

[WWW.MICHIGANFAMILY.ORG](http://WWW.MICHIGANFAMILY.ORG)

(517) 374-1171

Dear Michigan Voter:

This 2008 Voter Guide is designed to help you make an informed decision when you vote on Tuesday, November 4th.

The guide is non-partisan and is not intended to endorse or oppose any candidate, either explicitly or implicitly. We have printed candidate responses exactly as we received them on signed questionnaires. Unfortunately, some candidates did not respond to our questionnaire. Each candidate was contacted at least four times by phone, fax or email.

We especially want to thank our friends at Americans United for Life who helped make this Voter Guide possible.

Please consider sending a link or printing this Voter Guide and passing it along to friends, family and others in your community to increase its usefulness.

Thanks for being an informed voter. See you at the polls on November 4th!



Brad Snavelly  
Executive Director

## MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM

*Sound Public Policy for Stronger Michigan Families*

www.michiganfamily.org  
(517) 374-1171



www.aul.com  
(312) 568-4700

# VOTING SELECTIONS

For your convenience, write the names of the candidates you plan to vote for in the blanks below. You may then take it with you to the polls.

## PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

## U.S. SENATE

## U.S. HOUSE

## MI HOUSE

## JUSTICES

### MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT (1 POSITION OPEN)

### Michigan Court of Appeals (NUMBER VARIES BY COUNTY)

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION (2 POSITIONS OPEN)

## UNIVERSITY REGENTS

### MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY (2 POSITIONS OPEN)

### University of Michigan (2 POSITIONS OPEN)

### Wayne State University (2 POSITIONS OPEN)

Proposal 1:  yes /  no

Proposal 2:  yes /  no

# REMEMBER TO VOTE

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008

# PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



## JOHN MCCAIN

**PARTY:** Republican  
**EDUCATION:** National War College; United States Naval Academy, BS  
**RECENT POSITIONS:** Captain, United States Navy; US Representative, 1982-86; US Senator, 1987-Present  
**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 7 children  
**RELIGIOUS FAITH/DENOMINATION:** Episcopalian  
**AGE:** 72  
**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Member, Council on Foreign Relations, 1997-Present; Honorary Board Member, Hispanic Youth Foundation, 1997-Present; Member, American Dream Political Action Committee, 1997-Present  
**WEBSITE:** www.johnmccain.com

## BARACK OBAMA



**PARTY:** Democrat  
**EDUCATION:** Harvard Law School, JD; Columbia University, BA  
**RECENT POSITIONS:** Author, Lecturer, Professor (Constitutional Law); Illinois State Senator, 1996-2004; US Senator, 2005-Present  
**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children  
**RELIGIOUS FAITH/DENOMINATION:** United Church of Christ  
**AGE:** 47  
**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Chicago Annenberg Challenge; President, Harvard Law Review; Board Member, Joyce Foundation  
**WEBSITE:** www.barackobama.com

## ENDORSEMENTS:

Please refer to the last page of this guide for endorsement descriptions.

	CTV	CC	HRC	PP	RTL	SC	FB
(D) Barack Obama	—	—	HRC	PP	—	SC	—
(R) John McCain	CTV	—	—	—	RTL	—	—

# PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

**MCCAIN**

## VOTING RECORD

**OBAMA**

YES

### ENGLISH AS OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Vote to pass an amendment [to amend S 1348] that declares English as the language of “sole legal authority” for the business of the federal government, and declares that no person has a right to require officials of the United States government to use a language other than English. *(June 6, 2007, Roll Call Vote 198. Amendment Passed 64-33)*

NO

NO

### TROOP REDUCTION

Vote to adopt an amendment [to amend HR 1585] to begin reducing the number of U.S. forces in Iraq within 90 days of the enactment of this bill, with the exception of a limited number of U.S. forces to be engaged in targeted counterterrorism, the training of Iraqi forces, and the protection of U.S. personnel and infrastructure. *(Sept. 21, 2007, Roll Call Vote 346. Amendment Rejected 47-47)*

YES

NO

### STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

Vote to pass a bill that reauthorizes and expands the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Appropriates \$9.13 billion for fiscal year 2008, \$10.68 billion for fiscal year 2009, \$11.85 billion for fiscal year 2010, and \$13.75 billion for fiscal year 2011. *(August 2, 2007, Roll Call Vote 307. Bill Passed 68-31)*

YES

NO

### TROOP DEPLOYMENT INTERVALS

Vote to adopt an amendment that adds language to HR 1585 establishing mandatory minimum rest periods for members of the regular and reserve components of the armed forces between deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, and expressing the sense of the Congress concerning ideal rest periods between these deployments. *(Sept. 19, 2007, Roll Call Vote 341. Amendment Passed 56-44)*

YES

NO

### MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Vote to adopt an amendment that raises the federal hourly minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 over a two-year period that will begin 60 days after the enactment of the bill. *(June 21, 2006, Role Call 179. Amendment Rejected 46-52)*

YES

YES

### FREE TRADE

A vote to pass a bill that implements a free trade agreement between the United States, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. *(June 30, 2005, Roll Call 170. Passed 54-45)*

NO

# PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

**MCCAIN**

**OBAMA**

## FIREARMS MANUFACTURER'S LIABILITY PROTECTION

YES

Vote to pass a bill that provides liability protection for manufacturers, dealers or importers of firearms or ammunition products, as well as their trade associations, for harm caused by criminal or unlawful misuse. *(July 29, 2005, Roll Call Vote 219. Passed 65-31)*

NO

## JOHN ROBERTS CONFIRMATION

YES

Vote to confirm President George W. Bush's nomination of Judge John G. Roberts to be the United States Chief Justice. *(Sept. 27, 2005, Roll Call 245. Confirmed 78-22)*

NO

## PROHIBIT FLAG DESECRATION

YES

Vote to pass a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment that authorized Congress to ban physical desecration of the U.S. flag. *(June 27, 2006, Roll Call 189. Resolution Failed 34-66)*

NO

## PROTECTING PARENTAL NOTIFICATION

YES

[A bill] to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions. *(July 25, 2006, Roll Call 216. Bill Passed 65-34)*

NO

## OIL WINDFALL PROFIT TAX

NO

[A vote on a motion] to impose a temporary windfall profits tax on crude oil and to use the proceeds of the tax collected to fund programs under the Low-Income Energy Assistance Act of 1981 through a trust fund. *(November 17, 2005, Roll Call 339. Motion failed 48-50)*

YES

## SEX EDUCATION FUNDING

NO

Vote to adopt an amendment [to S 403] that authorizes grants from 2007 to 2011 for sexual education programs dealing with contraceptives and abstinence for the prevention of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. *(July 25, 2006, Roll Call 214. Amendment Rejected 48-51)*

YES

## DEFINE CHILD ELIGIBLE FOR SCHIP

YES

Vote to adopt an amendment [to Sen. Concurrent Res. 70] that would define a "targeted low-income child" who is eligible for child health assistance under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) as "an individual under age 19, including the period from conception to birth." *(March 14, 2008, Roll Call 81. Amendment Rejected 46-52)*

NO

# UNITED STATES SENATE



## JACK HOOGENDYK

**PARTY:** Republican

**EDUCATION:** NA

**RECENT POSITIONS:** Local County Politics, 2 years; Sales & Marketing, 12 years; Executive Director of Faith-based Non-Profit, 7 years; State Legislator, 6 years

**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 5 children

**RELIGIOUS FAITH OR DENOMINATION:** Christian

**AGE:** 53

**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Baptists for Life; Shalom Faith-based adult foster care; Alternatives Crisis Pregnancy Center

## CARL LEVIN (INCUMBENT)

**PARTY:** Democrat

**EDUCATION:** Harvard Law, LLBV; Swarthmore College, BA

**RECENT POSITIONS:** Attorney, 1959-1979; Detroit City Council, 1969-1978; US Senator, 1978-Present

**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 3 children

**RELIGIOUS FAITH OR DENOMINATION:** Jewish

**AGE:** 74

**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** General Counsel, Michigan Civil Rights Commission, 1964-67, American Bar Association, Michigan Bar Association



**Candidate chose not to respond.  
See contact log below.**

We were unable to get answers to these important questions, in spite of our numerous attempts. We encourage you, the voter, to contact Senator Levin and ask him where he stands on these issues. Contact information is provided to help you do this.

### Contact Log for Senator Levin

- 8-15 Mailed to campaign office and official offices in Detroit and Washington, DC
- 8-15 Faxed to Detroit and Washington, DC offices
- 9-10 Sent reminder cards to campaign, Detroit and Washington, DC offices
- 9-12 Called campaign office with reminder
- 9-18 Sent email reminder to campaign
- 9-24 Called campaign office

### Contact Information:

Friends of Senator Carl Levin  
26115 Greenfield Rd.  
Southfield, MI 48076  
(248) 443-6846  
[www.carllevin.com](http://www.carllevin.com)

# UNITED STATES SENATE

**SOCIAL SECURITY** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to allow individuals to invest a portion of their Social Security payroll deductions in their own retirement plan.

**HEALTH CARE** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to provide for publicly funded comprehensive health care coverage for all United States residents.

**TROOP WITHDRAWAL** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to order the Department of Defense to withdraw combat troops from Iraq by 2010.

**DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to amend the U.S. Constitution to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

**STEM CELL RESEARCH** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to permit public funding for embryonic stem cell research.

**PARENTAL CONSENT** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to prohibit the use of Title X funds (family planning), for unmarried minors without parental consent.

**ABSTINENCE FUNDING** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to increase abstinence funding to encourage teenagers to abstain from sexual activity.

**BORDER CONTROL** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to increase funding to construct barriers, electronically monitor, and increase border personnel along the U.S./Mexico border to prevent unauthorized border crossings.

**BALANCED BUDGET** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to amend the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced budget. A three-fifths majority would be needed to engage in deficit spending unless a state of war was declared.

**PUBLICIZED EARMARKS** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to require lawmakers who request earmarks (money appropriated for specific projects) to do so on public record.

## ANSWER KEY

SO = Strongly Oppose      F = Favor  
 O = Oppose                SF = Strongly Favor  
 U = Undecided            \* = No answer

## ENDORSEMENTS:

Please refer to the last page for endorsement descriptions

PARTY, NAME, CITY																	
	CTV	CC	TRI	PP	RTL	SC	FB	SOCIAL SECURITY	HEALTH CARE	TROOP WITHDRAWAL	DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE	STEM CELL RESEARCH	PARENTAL CONSENT	ABSTINENCE FUNDING	BORDER CONTROL	BALANCED BUDGET	PUBLICIZED EARMARKS
(R) Jack Hoogendyk, Texas Twp.	CTV	—	—	—	RTL	—	—	SF	SO	O	SF	SO	SF	F	F	SF	SF
(D) Carl Levin, Detroit	—	—	TRI	PP	—	SC	FB	Candidate chose not to respond. See contact log above.									

## JACK HOOGENDYK ESSAY ANSWERS

**Purpose of Government:** *What is your general belief about the proper role of our national government and its current scope and size? Give specific examples of programs that should be created, eliminated, expanded or contracted.*

The United States Constitution tells us what the purposes of federal government and state government are. Government has grown well beyond its intended purposes. I would advocate an elimination of the Department of Education. If federal government should fund public education, it should be done in the form of block grants. We need more local control of public education. I am opposed to federal bailouts of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

**Foreign Policy:** *What is the single most important foreign policy issue facing our nation and how do you propose we should address it?*

Single-most important issue is the defeat of Islamic Terrorism. We need to increase intelligence funding, something that was cut by our current US Senator. We must assure adequate funding of the military, troops, pay raises, hardware and new technology.

**Course of Nation:** *Looking at the social fabric of our nation, do you think we are generally headed in the right direction or are we off course? What do you believe the Senate should do to correct or maintain our current course?*

We are generally off-course. Government cannot solve our social problems and should not try. These issues should be addressed by the private sector, families, individuals, charities and small businesses. Government policy that encourages behaviors which lead to the breakdown of the traditional core family should be discontinued. We need to eliminate taxes that penalize marriage and families. Government needs to limit growth and spending, so as to provide relief to families. Thus, they will be able to spend less time working to make ends meet and more time at home with their family.

**Budget Priorities:** *Give specific examples of what action, if any, you would support in each category. 1) Eliminate or Decrease Program Funding 2) New or Increased Program Funding 3) Tax or Fee Cuts 4) Tax or Fee Increases*

I would decrease program funding. I would favor a revamping of the tax code. I favor the Fair Tax. We need a tax expenditure limitation amendment. Reduced or simplified tax structure will bring in more revenue. Congress is unable to control its appetite for spending. We need a constitutional amendment that limits discretionary spending to the rate of inflation plus population growth.

# UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**SOCIAL SECURITY** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to allow individuals to invest a portion of their Social Security payroll deductions in their own retirement plan.

**HEALTH CARE** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to provide for publicly funded comprehensive health care coverage for all United States residents.

**TROOP WITHDRAWAL** \_\_\_\_\_ Legislation to order the Department of Defense to withdraw combat troops from Iraq by 2010.

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**U = Undecided**            **\* = No answer**

## ENDORSEMENTS:

Please refer to the last page for endorsement descriptions

## DISTRICT, PARTY, NAME, CITY

	CTV	CC	TRI	PP	RTL	SC	FB	SOCIAL SECURITY	HEALTH CARE	TROOP WITHDRAWAL	DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE	STEM CELL RESEARCH	PARENTAL CONSENT	ABSTINENCE FUNDING	BORDER CONTROL	BALANCED BUDGET	PUBLICIZED EARMARKS
2 (R) Peter Hoekstra, Holland (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	-	FB	F	SO	O	SF	SO	SF	SF	F	F	SF
(D) Fred Johnson, Holland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	O	SF	F	O	SF	O	O	O	U	F
3 (R) Vernon Ehlers, Grand Rapids (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	SC	FB	F	U	O	F	O	F	F	F	F	F
(D) Henry Sanchez, Saranac	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (616) 642-3874									

# MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Family Planning** — Legislation to permit public schools to distribute family planning drugs or devices to students.
- Adoption Awareness** — Legislation to require unmarried pregnant minors to participate in an adoption awareness program as a condition of receiving public assistance.
- Waiting Periods** — Legislation to extend waiting periods for divorce, when minor children are involved, from six months to one year unless domestic violence has occurred in the home.
- Unmarried Adoption** — Legislation to permit unmarried couples to adopt children.
- Charter Schools** — Legislation to permit universities to create more charter schools by eliminating the current cap on the number permitted.

- Bottle Deposit** — Legislation to expand the bottle deposit law to noncarbonated beverages such as water and juice.
- Divorce Education** — Legislation to require divorcing couples with minor children to attend a child-impact divorce education program before a divorce is granted.
- In-Home Care Credit** — Legislation to provide a \$1,000 tax credit for families who provide in-home care for a dependent senior parent.
- Trigger Lock** — Legislation to require every gun owner to utilize a trigger lock, gun safe or other locking device to restrict access to every firearm.
- Supermajority Vote** — Legislation to require a supermajority vote of 3/5 (60%) of each house of the legislature to increase taxes.

## ANSWER KEY

SO = Strongly Oppose      F = Favor  
 O = Oppose                SF = Strongly Favor  
 U = Undecided            \* = No answer

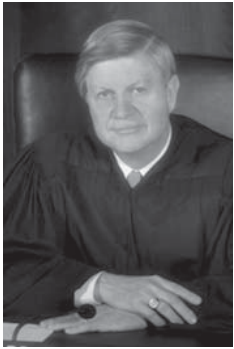
## ENDORSEMENTS:

Please refer to the last page for endorsement descriptions

DISTRICT, PARTY, NAME, CITY	CTV	CC	TRI	PP	RTL	SC	FB	ENDORSEMENTS										
								FAMILY PLANNING	ADOPTION AWARENESS	WAITING PERIODS	UNMARRIED ADOPTION	CHARTER SCHOOLS	BOTTLE DEPOSIT	DIVORCE EDUCATION	IN-HOME CARE CREDIT	TRIGGER LOCK	SUPERMAJORITY VOTE	
72 (D) Albert Abbasse, Byron Center	-	-	-	PP	-	-	-	F	O	O	U	O	U	U	F	U	O	
(R) Justin Amash, Kentwood	-	CC	-	-	RTL	-	-	O	F	F	O	SF	U	F	F	SO	SF	
73 (D) Bruce Hawley, Sparta	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (616) 678-5364										
(R) Tom Pearce, Rockford (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	-	FB	SO	F	F	O	F	O	F	F	U	F	
74 (D) Leon Chase, Coopersville	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (616) 862-2083										
(R) Dave Agema, Jenison (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	-	FB	SO	SF	F	SO	SF	O	SF	SF	SO	SF	
75 (D) Robert Dean, Grand Rapids (Incumb.)	-	-	TRI	-	RTL	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (517) 373-2668										
(R) Dan Tietema, Grand Rapids	CTV	CC	-	-	-	-	-	SO	F	U	O	F	SO	F	SF	O	SF	
76 (D) Roy Schmidt, Grand Rapids	-	CC	-	-	RTL	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (616) 365-2821										
(R) Marc Tonnemacher, Grand Rapids	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SO	SF	SF	SO	U	SO	O	F	O	SF	
77 (D) Charles Geerlings, Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	U	F	O	O	F	SF	SF	F	O	U	
(R) Kevin Green, Wyoming (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	-	FB	SO	F	F	SO	F	O	F	F	F	F	
86 (D) Melissa Casalina, Lowell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Candidate chose not to respond. (616) 897-1285										
(R) Dave Hildenbrand, Lowell (Incumb.)	CTV	CC	-	-	RTL	-	FB	SO	F	F	SO	SF	O	F	SF	U	SF	

# MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT (NON-PARTISAN)

CHOOSE ONE CANDIDATE



## **CLIFF TAYLOR (Incumbent)**

**NON-PARTISAN**

**EDUCATION:** University of Michigan, BA; George Washington University Law School, JD

**RECENT POSITIONS:** Michigan Supreme Court, 1997 - Present; Chief Justice 2004 - Present; 5 years on the Michigan Court of Appeals; 20 Years in Private Legal Practice

**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children

**RELIGIOUS FAITH OR DENOMINATION:** Catholic

**AGE:** 65

**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Board of the George Mason University Law and Economics Center

**ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan, Citizens for Traditional Values, Michigan Fraternal Order of Police, Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau AGRIPAC

**Nominated by the Republican Convention**

### **Describe the most pressing issue facing the judicial system today.**

The most pressing problem is activist judges who modify statues and the Constitution to suit themselves. This is wrong because it takes power from the legislature (the people) and imperils democracy. The proper role for judges is to “strictly construe” the law, which means to apply it as written.

### **What will you do about this issue if elected?**

The Michigan Supreme Court, through its majority Opinions, is the flagship court in the United States for restoring American courts to the role our founding father envisioned. In my 11 years as a Justice, I have authored many of these decisions. In addition, I write essays, Op-Eds, and Law Review Articles and speak frequently across the United States to refresh and reinforce the principle that judges shouldn’t make the rules; rather, they have the narrow but important job of enforcing the rules that the legislature had established.

When interpreting the constitution, it is not a judge’s job to “re-do” the constitution to bring it into accord with his preferences but to be faithful to its written word. I have been successful not only on the Court, but more broadly in influencing other Michigan judges and those in the other states to understand and appreciate this position. I’m proud of this record, but understand that I have incurred enemies because of it. Nevertheless, if re-elected, I will persevere in this important work with a deep sense of gratitude to the people of Michigan who have afforded me this opportunity.

# MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT (NON-PARTISAN)

CHOOSE ONE CANDIDATE



## DIANE MARIE HATHAWAY

NON-PARTISAN

**EDUCATION:** Detroit College of Law, J.D., 1987; Madonna College, B.S.; Allied Health, 1983; Wayne State University, 1980-1981

**RECENT POSITIONS:** Judge, Circuit Court, 1993-Present; Macomb County Assistant Prosecutor, 1987-1993; Chief of the Drug Forfeiture Division

**MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 5 children

**RELIGIOUS FAITH OR DENOMINATION:** Roman Catholic

**AGE:** 54

**COMMUNITY OR CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** State Bar of Michigan; Michigan Judges Association

**ENDORSEMENTS:** Michigan Education Association; Wayne County Sheriff Deputies; Michigan AFL-CIO

**Nominated by the Democratic Convention**

### **Describe the most pressing issue facing the judicial system today.**

The two most pressing problems are that the court is no longer viewed as fair and impartial. This is seen in large part because it fails to follow the canons of judicial ethics. Secondly, this is demonstrated through the current Supreme Court's practice of limiting the right to have a trial by jury.

### **What will you do about this issue if elected?**

If elected, I will restore basic fairness and integrity back to the Supreme Court. My first priority will be restoring the practice of following the judicial canons of ethics followed by judges across the country, which this Supreme Court has rejected. Our rights to a trial by jury, and the ability to have one's case be heard, are time-honored values of all citizens in this country. Currently, Michigan citizens are being denied their basic rights because of restrictive rulings that manipulate the plain language and intent of our laws. I will help to reverse this problem by applying the laws we have, and following precedent so citizens may have the merits of their case determined. I will ensure that cases are not result determinative, and standing is not limited in these newly restrictive ways, denying the citizens of Michigan their basic rights. I will also restore the practice of treating individuals who our courts serve with the dignity and respect they deserve.

# MICHIGAN COURT OF APPEALS

## 3rd District Court of Appeals, Incumbent Position, Vote for 2 Candidates

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**Richard Bandstra\*** **EDUCATION:** Calvin College, BA; University of Chicago, MA; University of Chicago, JD **RECENT POSITIONS:** Court of Appeals, 1994-2008; Chief Judge, 1999-2001 **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Christian **AGE:** 58 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Board Member, Habitat for Humanity of Grand Rapids; Elder, Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids; Board Member, Advisory Center for Teens **ENDORSEMENTS:** NA

**Jane Markey\*** **EDUCATION:** Michigan State University, BA; Thomas M. Cooley Law School, JD **RECENT POSITIONS:** Court of Appeals, 1994-Present; Member, State Bar of Michigan **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** NA **AGE:** 57 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** NA **ENDORSEMENTS:** NA

## 3rd District Court of Appeals, Incumbent Position, Partial Term Position

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**Jane Beckering** **EDUCATION:** University of Wisconsin Law School, JD; University of Michigan, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Judge, Court of Appeals, 2007-present; Private Practice Lawyer, 1990-2007 **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 3 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Christian **AGE:** 43 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Hillman Trial Advocacy Program; Grand Rapids Bar Association; Justice Foundation of West Michigan **ENDORSEMENTS:** NA

\* THIS CANDIDATE DID NOT COMPLETE THE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH PROVIDED BY MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM.  
THIS INFORMATION WAS TAKEN FROM MICHIGAN MANUAL, A STATE OF MICHIGAN PUBLICATION.

**John Austin (Incumbent)** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat  
**EDUCATION:** Harvard University, MA; Swarthmore College, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Vice-President, Michigan State Board of Education; New Economy Initiative for Southeast Michigan; Policy Director for Governor's Commission on Higher Education **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 3 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** NA **AGE:** 46 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Michigan Common Cause; Ozone House (Youth Runaway Shelter); Michigan League of Conservation Voters **ENDORSEMENTS:** NA

### **What is the most pressing problem facing our education system today?**

Low and poor academic achievement levels and bad outcomes (e.g. dropouts) for too many young people in too many schools and school districts.

### **If elected, what would you do about this problem?**

High and consistent learning expectations for all students in all schools; reform of the school structure, how content is delivered, and training and professional development for staff and teachers – so rigorous content is engaging, relevant and effective in helping all students master needed proficiencies.

**Scott Jenkins** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** University of Central Florida, BS; Florida State University, credit toward Master's Degree **RECENT POSITIONS:** Deputy Assistant Secretary U.S. Department of Education, 2002-2004; Education Policy Coordinator, Executive Office of the Governor, 1999-2002; Senior Education Policy Consultant, Jobs for the Future, Inc, and Achieve, Inc, 2006-Present **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Catholic **AGE:** 42 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Rotary International; Williamston Schools Foundation **ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan

### **What is the most pressing problem facing our education system today?**

The most pressing problem facing Michigan education is the large number of persistently under performing school districts failing to provide an adequate education to students. *(Continued in next column)*

### **If elected, what would you do about this problem?**

The State Board of Education must implement a process to stabilize and reform the financial mismanagement and operations of struggling school districts. The curricular and instructional process in these districts needs comprehensive review and transformation. Teachers and schools must be held accountable; good teachers supported and poorly performing teachers removed from the classroom. Dozens of school districts in Michigan are failing to prepare students adequately and it must stop for Michigan to be competitive.

**Kathleen Straus (Incumbent)** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat  
Candidate chose not to respond.

**Richard Zeile** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** Detroit Ecumenical Seminary, D-Min; Specialist in Educational Administration, Wayne State University; Master of Theological Studies, Harvard Divinity School; University of Michigan, MAE **RECENT POSITIONS:** Board President 2003-2007, Woodward Academy, Detroit; Helped organize Old Redford Academy, 1998-2000, Detroit **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 4 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Lutheran **AGE:** 53 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Michigan Republican Party; Michigan Civil Rights Initiative; Volunteer, Right to Life of Michigan **ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan

### **What is the most pressing problem facing our education system today?**

The single most pressing problem facing our education system today is a loss of focus on its mission of helping all children learn skills and knowledge.

### **If elected, what would you do about this problem?**

As a member of the State Board of Education, I would publicly remind members of their responsibility for policy that benefits all children of the state, not merely those attending public schools. Such policy must take into account the differing needs, not only of urban, rural and suburban children, but also of children from the same household. Policy that promotes school choice (including public, private, charter, and home schools) and holds these choices accountable by standardized testing, is how I would address this most pressing problem.

# UNIVERSITY BOARDS

CHOOSE TWO CANDIDATES PER UNIVERSITY

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

**Lisa Bouchard** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** Michigan State University, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** President & CEO, Dickson and Associates; Member, Beaumont Hospital Board of Trustees; Member, Bank of Bloomfield Board of Directors **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 6 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Methodist **AGE:** 48 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Birmingham Bloomfield Families in Action; Suite Dreams Project; Birmingham Community House; Detroit Country Day Schools Board; MSU Extension Program **ENDORSEMENTS:** Farm Bureau AGRIPAC, Right to Life of Michigan

**Dianne Byrum** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat **EDUCATION:** Michigan State University, BS; Lansing Community College, AA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Michigan House of Representatives, 8 years; Michigan Senate, 8 years; Small Business Owner **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Methodist **AGE:** 54 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Children's Trust Fund Advisory Board, MSU Children's Health Initiative Board Member; Friends of Education Board Member **ENDORSEMENTS:** AFL-CIO, Change to Win, Michigan Education Association

**George Scott Romney (Incumbent)** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** Harvard Law School, JD; Michigan State University, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Trustee, Michigan State University, 2000-Present; Partner, Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn Law Offices, 1975-Present; Board of Directors, Compuware Corporation, 1996-Present **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 7 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints **AGE:** 67 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Detroit Area Council, Boy Scouts of America; New Detroit; Hospice of Michigan **ENDORSEMENTS:** Farm Bureau AGRIPAC, Right to Life of Michigan

**Diann Woodard** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat  
Candidate chose not to respond.

## WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Torion Bridges** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** Michigan State University, Degree Expected 2010 **RECENT POSITIONS:** State Committee Member of the Michigan Republican Party; Current College Student **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Single, no children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Baptist **AGE:** 21 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Charter Member of the Detroit Conservative Society; President of the Malcom X Academy Alumni Association; Member of the Wayne County Republican Committee **ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan

**Paul Massaron (Incumbent)** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat  
Candidate chose not to respond.

**Danielle Karmanos** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** Wayne State University, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Founder, Danielle Karmanos Work It Out, 4 years **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, no children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Greek Orthodox **AGE:** 35 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Karmanos Cancer Institute, Committee Member; Founding Board Member, Museum of Contemporary Art; Board Member, Michigan Opera Theater; Event Co-Chair, Opera Ball **ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan

**Gary Pollard** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat  
Candidate chose not to respond.

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

**Susan Brown** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** University of Michigan, BA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Trustee of Kalamazoo College, 1995-2002; President, Susan Brown Interiors, 1976-present **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married; 4 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Presbyterian **AGE:** 67 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Past president of Kalamazoo History Conservancy for the Preservation of Art; Ford School of Public Policy – U of M; U of M Museum of Art **ENDORSEMENTS:** NA

**Laurence Deitch (Incumbent)** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat **EDUCATION:** University of Michigan, BA; University of Michigan Law School, JD **RECENT POSITIONS:** Regent, University of Michigan, 1993-present; Member, Michigan Civil Service Commission; Vice Chairman, Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Welfare Reform **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married; 3 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Jewish **AGE:** 61 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Temple Bethel, President; Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Director; Michigan Cancer Foundation, Director Jewish Community Council, Director; Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Director **ENDORSEMENTS:** AFL-CIO, Michigan Education Association, Change to Win

**Denise Ilitch** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat **EDUCATION:** University of Michigan, BS; University of Detroit, JD **RECENT POSITIONS:** President, Ilitch Enterprises, Inc.; Owner and Publisher, Ambassador Magazine; Clarke Hill, PLC, Of Counsel, Owner, Denise Ilitch Designs, 2004-Present; President, Ilitch Holdings, Inc., 2000-2004; Ilitch Holdings, Inc., 1970-2000 **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married; 3 children **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Christian **AGE:** 52 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** The University of Michigan Alumni Association; Past Board Member of NAACP; Founder of the Ilitch Charities for Children and The Denise Ilitch Scholarship at Walsh College, Board Member of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and Starfish Family Services **ENDORSEMENTS:** Michigan Education Association, American Federation of Teachers

**John LaFond** **PARTY AFFILIATION:** Republican **EDUCATION:** University of Michigan, BSE (AE), MBA **RECENT POSITIONS:** Chief Engineer, Ford Motor Company, 3 years; Ford Production Development, Lead Recruiting Manager, 11 years; Director of Ford/U of M Program Development, 3 years **MARITAL STATUS/CHILDREN:** Married, 2 children. **RELIGIOUS FAITH:** Catholic **AGE:** 63 **COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:** Engineering Society of Detroit – Member Session Development **ENDORSEMENTS:** Right to Life of Michigan, Citizens for Traditional Values

## DISTRICTS IN YOUR COUNTY

Governmental Unit	C	SH	AC
KENT COUNTY	2,3	72-77,86	3

C = Congress  
SH = State House  
AC = Appeals Court

**This guide is not intended for partisan use and should not be altered in any manner.**

## BALLOT PROPOSALS

The ballot proposals below are given exactly as they will appear on the Nov. 4 General Election ballot.

### PROPOSAL 08-1

#### A LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE TO PERMIT THE USE AND CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA FOR SPECIFIED MEDICAL CONDITIONS

##### The proposed law would:

- Permit physician approved use of marijuana by registered patients with debilitating medical conditions including cancer, glaucoma, HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis C, MS and other conditions as may be approved by the Department of Community Health.
- Permit registered individuals to grow limited amounts of marijuana for qualifying patients in an enclosed, locked facility.
- Require Department of Community Health to establish an identification card system for patients qualified to use marijuana and individuals qualified to grow marijuana.
- Permit registered and unregistered patients and primary caregivers to assert medical reasons for using marijuana as a defense to any prosecution involving marijuana.

Should this proposal be adopted? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

### PROPOSAL 08-2

#### A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ADDRESS HUMAN EMBRYO AND HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH IN MICHIGAN

##### The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Expand use of human embryos for any research permitted under federal law subject to the following limits: the embryos --
  - are created for fertility treatment purposes
  - are not suitable for implantation or are in excess of clinical needs
  - would be discarded unless used for research
  - were donated by the person seeking fertility treatment
- Provide that stem cells cannot be taken from human embryos more than 14 days after cell division begins.
- Prohibit any person from selling or purchasing human embryos for stem cell research.
- Prohibit state and local laws that prevent, restrict or discourage stem cell research; future therapies and cures.

Should this proposal be adopted? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

## PROPOSAL 08-1

### MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM URGES YOU TO VOTE “NO” ON PROPOSAL 1

#### **Proposal 1 Leads to Illegal Activity**

California passed a similar law. We should learn from their experience that marijuana smoking leads to abuses and crime. Many of the marijuana centers are buying their marijuana off the black market, dumping millions of dollars into the criminal black market. As recently as October 2, the LA Times reported several armed men robbed a marijuana distribution clinic and killed an armed guard who had been hired to protect the facility.

#### **Proposal 1 Will Lead to Pot Shops in Strip Malls**

Proposal 1 allows one person to grow and provide marijuana for people “in an enclosed, locked facility.” Pot shops in strip malls are a reality in California and a dangerous possibility in Michigan under Proposal 1.

There are more than 400 pot shops in Los Angeles. Where located, information shows a rise in serious crimes such as robberies, burglaries and aggravated assaults has followed.

#### **Proposal 1 Opens the Doors to Other Drugs**

Marijuana is called a “gateway drug” because it opens the door to the use of more dangerous drugs like cocaine. If approved by voters, Proposal 1’s vague and carelessly written provisions open the door to unintended consequences that put Michigan kids and our communities in danger of increased drug use.

#### **Proposal 1 Creates Expensive Health Problems**

Smoking marijuana creates serious health risks for smokers that will increase healthcare costs. Smoked marijuana is not filtered and may lead to respiratory illnesses which will further complicate existing conditions and create new problems. It is not a coincidence that no other medication is smoked. It is impossible to establish dosages of marijuana. The quantity, potency and frequency a person smokes marijuana is entirely up to the individual. Other drugs are closely studied and regulated to eliminate overuse or negative interaction with other substances. Proposal 1 creates a “medical free-for-all” with unknown health risks.

#### **Proposal 1 Invites Lawsuits Against Employers**

Employers will have difficulty firing or disciplining employees who smoke or provide marijuana. Michigan employers may be at significant risk if a marijuana using employee causes injury or damage while employed. Similarly, licensed professionals, such as doctors, may be putting professional associations at risk if a member recommends or provides marijuana to an individual who causes injury or death while high on marijuana. Michigan’s economy is already struggling. Companies looking to locate in Michigan don’t want to be required to hire employees who smoke marijuana. Other employees will be at risk, their liability costs will increase and their product quality may suffer. Business owners know drugs and workplaces don’t go well together.

#### **Proposal 1 Permits High School Students to Legally Smoke Marijuana**

Anyone age 18 or older with a qualifying condition may obtain a doctors’ permission to smoke marijuana even without their parents consent. Kids under the age of 18 may be allowed to smoke marijuana if their parents’ consent. Parents and schools are already fighting a difficult battle against drug use in schools. By legalizing drug use for many of our school-aged students, voters will be increasing the number of sources available to students. Our fight to protect our children from drugs will get harder.

#### **Proposal 1 Has Unknown Consequences**

Proposal 1 is simply a bad law. It is vague and open to the same broad interpretations that have created a legally protected drug trade in California. We don’t want that for Michigan.

*For more information on Proposal 1 visit [www.nopotshops.com](http://www.nopotshops.com)*

#### **ORGANIZATIONS THAT OPPOSE PROPOSAL 1 INCLUDE:**

Michigan State Medical Society

Michigan Sheriffs’ Association

Michigan Fraternal Order of Police

Drug-Free Schools Coalition

Michigan Osteopathic Association

Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

Citizens for Traditional Values

National Drug-Free Workplace Alliance

Michigan Health and Hospital Association

Prosecuting Attorneys Association of MI

Michigan Family Forum

Drug Free America Foundation

## PROPOSAL 08-2

### MICHIGAN FAMILY FORUM URGES YOU TO VOTE “NO” ON PROPOSAL 2

#### **Proposal 2 Terminates Human Life**

Using human embryonic stem cells requires killing human embryos. There is no other way around it, a life must be terminated. Unlike other stem cell research, this method ends one human life in the name of “scientific progress” to improve another.

#### **Proposal 2 Permits Unrestricted Science**

The proposed constitutional amendment says, “All stem cell research ... must be conducted ... in accordance with state and local laws .. to the extent that any such laws do not prevent, restrict, obstruct or discourage any stem cell research ...” In other words, if Michigan laws discourage or restrict scientists, they can ignore the law and proceed down the path to radical science. They could mix human DNA with animal eggs - which is being done legally in England – and in the quest for cures, actually open a Pandora’s Box to interspecies diseases entering the gene pool. Proposal 2 authorizes unregulated and unrestricted, destructive research on live human embryos.

#### **Proposal 2 Does Nothing to Strengthen the Ban on Human Cloning**

Proposal 2 will not change the ban on human cloning, but it will also do “nothing” to stop legislation that would legalize it in the future. Leaders of this proposal have already introduced bills into the Michigan legislature in attempts to legalize human cloning and Proposal 2 will allow that to happen.

#### **Proposal 2 Will Lead to Tax Funded Research**

Without the support of tax funded dollars, the promise of more biotech jobs coming to Michigan will be just that, an empty promise. Looking at other states like New Jersey and California, proposal 2 is just the beginning to more taxes and spending. New Jersey was the first state to approve tax dollars to support stem cell research (\$270 million) but California has approved the most of any state, up to \$3 billion in state taxpayer funding.

#### **Proposal 2 Amends the Michigan Constitution**

This is not just a law that voters are passing, it is a Constitutional Amendment. This process will make it very difficult for lawmakers to regulate human embryo research in order to prevent abuses. If abuses or mistakes occur down the road, we may have to wait until the next election to correct them. Supporters went this route in order to guarantee the biotech industry maximum immunity from lawmakers and voters.

#### **Proposal 2 Puts Congress in Charge of Michigan’s Research**

Proposal 2 allows scientists to engage in research “permitted under federal law” on human embryos. However, there are no federal laws governing this type of research. Under federal law, it’s “anything goes” for human embryo research. This proposal deceptively removes the power from the people of Michigan and their elected officials and hands it over to the biotech industry.

#### **Proposal 2 Does Not Offer Real Hope**

It is a myth that human embryonic stem cells have led to cures for diseases or even offer substantial promise for cures. It is true that adult stem cells are being used to treat patients with numerous types of diseases but embryonic stem cells have never achieved success. In fact, scientists now know how to change adult stem cells into embryonic-like stem cells. If scientists do find value in embryonic stem cells in the future, they could use this new process without killing human embryos.

*For more information on Proposal 2 visit [www.micause.org](http://www.micause.org)*

#### **ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MICAUSE COALITION (OPPOSING PROPOSAL 2) INCLUDE:**

Assemblies of God	Knights of Columbus
Baptists for Life	Lutherans for Life
Citizens for Traditional Values	Michigan Catholic Conference
Concerned Women of America of Michigan	Michigan Family Forum
Democrats for Life of Michigan	Right to Life of Michigan
Family Research Council	

## ENDORSEMENTS

The following organizations endorse candidates seeking public office. All endorsements were provided by the endorsing organization and should not be considered as an endorsement by Michigan Family Forum. The information is public information available on the Internet. For more information about endorsement selections, we have provided you with the phone numbers and websites of the endorsing agencies. The description of each organization was taken directly from the website of the endorsing organization. In some cases, an organization may endorse more than one candidate in each district.

- CTV** **Citizens for Traditional Values PAC** works to preserve the influence of faith and family, protect an inalienable right to life, encourage free enterprise, and promote educational freedom. [www.ctvmichigan.org](http://www.ctvmichigan.org) (517) 321-1390
- CC** **Michigan Chamber of Commerce** seeks to advance human progress through an economic, political, and social system based on individual freedom, incentive, opportunity and responsibility and endorses candidates who promote job creation and economic growth. [www.michamber.com](http://www.michamber.com) (517) 371-2100
- TRI** **Triangle Pride PAC** supports the civil rights of all people - especially those who suffer discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Candidates are endorsed based on their track records and positions on issues important to gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders. [www.pride-pac.org](http://www.pride-pac.org) (313) 537-7000 ext. 105
- PP** **Planned Parenthood** seeks to protect and enhance the ability of affiliates to deliver comprehensive reproductive health services by affecting public policy and endorsing pro-choice political candidates. [www.miplannedparenthoodvotes.org](http://www.miplannedparenthoodvotes.org) (517) 482-1080
- RTL** **Right to Life of Michigan** is committed to articulating and protecting the right to life of all innocent human beings, born and unborn. **In some districts, both candidates meet criteria.** [www.rtl.org](http://www.rtl.org) (616) 532-2300
- SC** **Sierra Club** works to elect strong candidates who will pro-actively work to protect and restore Michigan's clean water and wild places, clean up pollution and steer Michigan and the country toward a sustainable energy future. [www.michigan.sierraclub.org](http://www.michigan.sierraclub.org) (517) 484-2372
- FB** **Michigan Farm Bureau's AgriPac** endorses candidates considered "Friends of Agriculture" which includes protection of private property rights and the quality of the rural environment, tax policies and economic growth, and the quality and safety of our food supply. [www.michfb.com](http://www.michfb.com) (517) 323-7000
- HRC** **Human Rights Campaign** envisions an America where gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are ensured equality and embraced as full members of the American family at home, at work and in every community. [www.hrc.org](http://www.hrc.org) (202) 628-4160