

64th District

Karen Artinian

Democrat, unopposed

Wilbur V. Brotherton

Republican, incumbent, 57, of Farmington. State representative. Education: Attended Northwestern University. Qualifications: Oakland County commissioner; seven years, mayor; 14 years, councilmember, city of Farmington; representative to SEMCOG; 27 years in the auto industry, much of it in executive capacity; three years own business.

1. I believe the present system is reasonably fair although the public's perception that the property tax is unfair, and the inequities which exist in the way in which it is applied, call for property tax relief at the local level something similar to the Siljander proposal.

2. First I would look at the staffing that supports the various boards and commissions and special activities within our major departments. Next, I would reduce grant levels on a selective basis.

3. The state should provide a revolving fund to help pay for research and development in the areas of energy conservation, solar and other alternatives.

4. They should improve the general business climate by eliminating inequities in the worker's compensation system and not require that the prevailing wage be paid on construction projects funded with economic development funds.

5. Public transportation designed to accomplish social objectives such as service for the handicapped and elderly should be paid out of the general fund or some statewide tax for that purpose, road related transportation systems and, of course, highway construction from taxes on motor vehicles, gasoline and diesel fuel.

6. Taxing agricultural land on the basis of its current use and improving the farmland preservation act, if need be, to encourage farmers to continue to farm.

John M. Mulroy

Republican, 21, of Southfield. Assistant to director of registration and scheduling, University of Detroit. Education: BS, cum laude, University of Detroit.

1. The Michigan economy is too precarious now to risk violent changes in the tax structure without compelling justification. We must maintain the constitutional ban on a graduated income tax. Support for public education should remain based on property tax. Fiscal responsibility should be encouraged through "indexing".

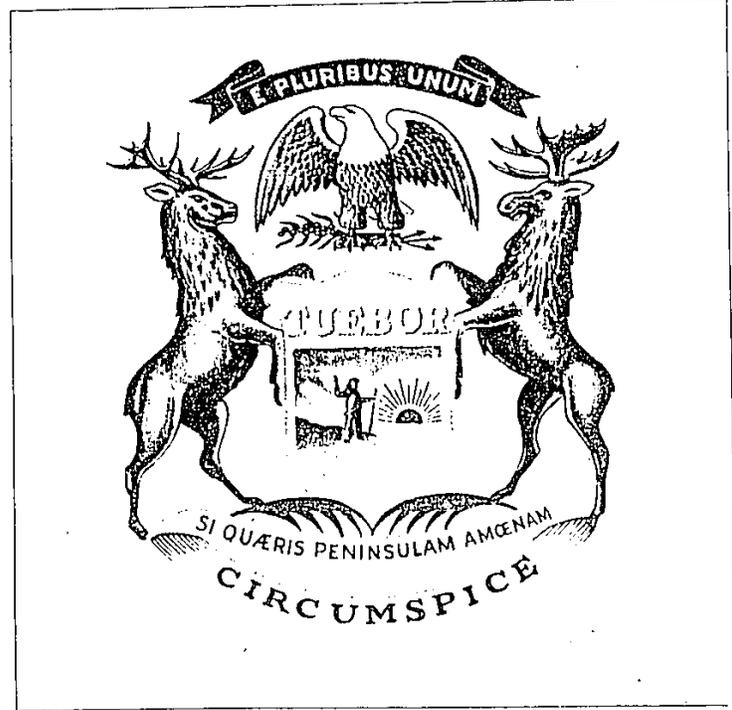
2. I would recommend significant program reductions in agriculture, licensing and military affairs. Transportation will have to be cut because its tax revenue is anticipated to decline. Education funding for universities, junior and community colleges should be reduced and that which remains should be provided on a need basis.

3. The legislature should do everything it can to encourage the development of solar, fossil and nuclear fuel. Site approval for these plants should be pushed by the legislature. A plan for providing interest-free bonds for environmental protection equipment should be promoted by the state through the municipalities.

4. Michigan could encourage development by revamping its workmen's compensation system to reduce the burden it puts on employers. Investment tax credits for new employers locating in Michigan also could help. The state must campaign for every federal dollar available to support the state economy and actively recruit out-of-state business.

5. Local government should be responsible for the development of individual mass transit systems. Tax-free bond issues could be used to fund the programs. After the systems have been developed the state could reimburse the counties with money from the general fund. This allows programs tailored to the areas they serve.

6. I support legislation enabling farmers to voluntarily establish agricultural districts. This would strengthen the the Farmland and Open Space Preservation



Act. It would become a useful tool for farmers protecting valuable land from non-agricultural uses. These districts would restrict those activities which are in conflict with our ability to produce food.

Joseph Schmidt

Republican, 62, of Southfield. Owner-operator, insurance agency, 16 years; also some real estate activity. Education: Wayne State University. Qualifications: Authored book on personality development with emphasis on fulfilling needs at any level of society; extensive background for above with several years analysis as a base.

1. Recommend state hold in abatement any tax change at present to better assess necessary reduction to help overcome recession.

2. Necessary cuts in areas of least basic needs first, proceeding numerically as priorities of need and circumstances dictate.

3. Form an energy commission for continuing dialog with companies with authority to recommend public reports to be decided in proxy form by customers.

4. Give new business with over 200 employees three-year tax deferral.

5. Additional sales tax if needed.

6. Maintain agricultural status quo by law.

65th District

Paul Calvin

Peterson

Democrat, unopposed.

James E. Defebaugh

Republican, incumbent, 53, of Birmingham. Legislator (1971-1980). Education: BA 1950, Knox College. Qualifications: Five terms in Legislature; member, House Committees on Corporations and Finance, Conservation and Environment, House Policy and Elections; Joint Committee on Interstate Cooperation; former member, Community Action Council, Community Mental Health Board.

1. Lower present 50 percent assessment rate to 40 percent with revenue loss to schools and local government made up by general fund appropriations; repeal single business tax because it's unfair to most small businesses, professionals and service businesses, and return to a business profits tax.

2. Initiate state employee hiring freeze and reduce proposed civil service wage in-

creases; 5 to 7 percent cut in all state department budgets except school aid, state police and corrections; eliminate duplicate shelter payments and property tax refunds to welfare recipients.

3. Tax incentives should be provided to assist in utility construction costs; provide for a good statewide public transportation system; educational and incentive programs encouraging efficient energy usage.

4. Elimination of abuses in workers and unemployment compensation programs; repeal single business tax; provide adequate rail and highway network; more extensive promotion of Michigan's advantages in its labor force, availability of water and recreational opportunities for employees.

5. Operating deficits made up by general fund appropriations; state share of capital costs through bond sales if Michigan's bond rating improves sufficiently to lower interest cost; public should have the opportunity to vote for capital and deficit funding proposals.

6. Although the Farmland Preservation Act, PA 116, has partially addressed the problem, agricultural lands and homesteads should be taxed on the basis of their present usage, not on potential value as a shopping center or residential development.

Michael Stein

Republican, 30, of Bloomfield Hills. Self-employed, attorney, Partovich, Stein and Sirlin. Education: BA, Michigan State University; JD, Georgetown Law School; LL.M., London School of Economics. Qualifications: Worked for U.S. Small Business Administration and am active in many community affairs.

1. The changes necessary in Michigan's taxation system are reduction in property taxes and reformation or abolition of the single business tax. Michigan needs tax reduction, not tax shifts. Lower tax rates will attract business to the state. More businesses paying fewer taxes will result in increased wealth without decreased revenues.

2. All appropriations for the proposed subway should terminate. Eight miles of expensive subway in 1990 cannot be the answer to an overall mass transit problem. Welfare payments should be reduced, especially where recipients have the ability to work and do not work. Government employees should be reduced through hiring limitations.

3. As an energy producing state, we

should provide tax incentives and technical and management assistance for exploration and recovery of energy resources. The state should also maintain energy conservation measures, such as the 55 mph requirement and be prepared with additional conservation measures for potential energy crises in the 1980s.

4. The best incentives to attract business to Michigan would be to permanently improve the business climate for all businesses. This includes making less burdensome to business the Workman's Compensation Law and MESC law and abolition or reformation of the single business tax.

5. Since transportation affects the whole state, a portion should come from general revenues. The remainder should come from those who use the facilities by increasing usage charges. Due to high costs of transportation, we should have efficient above ground forms of transit, which take advantage of our excellent road system.

6. Agricultural land should be maintained by taxing farm land according to its productivity as a farm, not at its fair market value in some other potential use. Farms should not be taxed out of existence only to be converted to far-flung residential communities which accelerate transportation and energy problems.