

STATE SENATE 4 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE

Issues

Candidates for State Senate were asked to respond to each question in 75 words.



The candidates

Candidates for State Senate were asked to summarize their biographies in 75 words.

FUNDING SCHOOLS

Some predictions for the financing of education in Michigan indicate a shortfall of funds by the 1995-97 school year. How would you address future funding for Michigan schools?

LAND USE PLAN

What is your view of the legislature adopting a state-wide Land Use plan that would require developers to have infrastructure and public services in place concurrent with development?

COMMITTEES

If elected to the State Senate on which committees would you like to serve and why?

14TH DISTRICT

STUART J. GOLDBERG Democrat, 48

Education: Overmeer, Junior High at Detroit Country Day School. High School at Mumford and Interlochen Arts Academy. College at Oakland University, major in Philosophy, minor English.
Occupation: Writer/Producer and Marketing Consultant.
Background: Started professional life as teacher of the Transcendental Meditation program, to help people reduce tension and stress, and live happier, healthier, fuller lives. Since then I have produced national and nationally-syndicated radio series on health, fitness, and stress of popular interest and importance.

Education today is failing us. That's why our taxpayers are refusing to keep throwing their money away. The purpose of education is to create better citizens, to teach each student to think and act in harmony with natural law. Only such education, which promotes ideal citizenship, can stem the otherwise inevitable tide of crime, ill-health, and other basic problems. When education again fulfills its basic mission, then the people will naturally rise to support it.

It is important for every individual, no matter what profession, to have the breadth of vision to take all the implications of their actions into account. Only by having this expanded awareness will people act in harmony with their surroundings. The legislature must adopt the kind of programs that will promote such expanded consciousness, where each individual thinks and acts in full harmony with other citizens, the environment, and all the laws of nature.

Education; Family Law, Mental Health, Corrections; Health Policy and Senior Citizens; Judiciary; Appropriation. Government's job is to prevent problems, not to be victimized by them. Natural Law Party offers proven, effective solutions to the basic problems of individual and societal stress which face our people today. As a member of these crucial committees, I will present strong, effective, prevention oriented legislation that will save Michigan taxpayers millions of dollars, and substantially improve their daily lives.

15TH DISTRICT

VICKI BARNETT Democrat, 39

Education: 1972 Groves High School graduate, with honors, Birmingham, MI. 1981 S.G.S. Degree, with honors, University of Michigan, Dearborn. 1983 M.S.A., with distinction, University of Michigan, Dearborn.
Occupation: Homemaker and Civic Activist; Chair of the 11th Congressional District Democratic Committee, Co-founder and Chair of Citizens Alliance for Responsible Education (CARE) which sponsored a successful statewide petition drive to guarantee continued funding for public education.
Background: I have been active in Democratic Party politics for over a decade.

Proposal A limits legislative options. I oppose raiding revenue sharing dollars to make up the shortfall. I would reverse the recent Legislative "take-aways" that reduced the school aid fund by nearly \$700 million: e.g., agriculture property tax exemptions and reductions in lottery/bingo gaming proceeds. I would allow permanent enhancement millages for school districts (under current law, enhancement millages expire in 3 years). Voluntary school district consolidation and other cost savings measures should be encouraged.

I strongly support state legislation incorporating environmental and growth and development concerns over land use. However, any statewide plan should leave local governments, with basic parameters, with substantial control over land use in their communities. While I support shifting some of the burden for infrastructure development from the general taxpayers to the developer, a proper balance must be struck among developers, land users and taxpayers.

School Aid (K-12) and Department of Education Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee: Quality education and school funding are key issues. I welcome the opportunity to shape school financial and policy issues and ensure proper funding for these programs. Corporations and Economic Development: Michigan must continually expand and diversify its economy for the 21st Century global market. As an MBA graduate, I will bring a managerial approach to attract new business and keep Michigan economically competitive.

DAVE HONIGMAN Republican - DID NOT RESPOND

DAVID S. THOMPSON Libertarian, 63

Education: Eight years University of Michigan, B.S. Zoology, D.D.S.
Occupation: Dentist, private practice.
Background: Resident of Wayne and Oakland counties for 58 years, the last 27 in Farmington Hills. Very active in many organizations and public involvement. Helped start Homeowners Organizations and Rouge Rescue. Served as District Officer with the military in Europe. Politically I believe in Constitutional individual rights and oppose bureaucratic government actions eroding those rights. I support the implementation of Constitutional Amendments IX and X.

Michigan finances historically are cyclical. Right now we have a 400 million dollar excess and all sorts of ideas to spend it. We need legislators to stop spending on their pet projects and we won't have a shortfall in two years. It would also help if the legislators kept their promise of lottery funds to be put aside for education.

"State-Wide" - No. Cheboygan County and Oakland County do not require the same rules. Let county government decide such things.

Before I could really decide I would have to investigate which committees I could offer the most, and where I could be most effective. Obviously my experience qualifies me for committees on health. I am also qualified for ecological and environmental matters, and I am well versed in the problems of small business.

16TH DISTRICT

KEVIN F. KELLY Democrat - DID NOT RESPOND

MAT DUNASKIS Republican, 42

Education: B.A. University of Michigan, M.A. University of Michigan.
Occupation: Educator, business owner, and legislator.
Background: Former educator. Elected to County Commission in 1976. Elected to State House in 1980, 82, 84, 86 and 88. Elected to State Senate 1990. Serves as Assistant Majority Whip, Chairman of Technology and Energy Committee, Vice-Chairman of Health Policy and member, Natural Resources Committee.

With the passage of Proposal A school financing will no longer be financed on the backs of homeowners. A fairer share of education financing will be the result. No longer will school districts face a "robber's raid" of their funds. The prior system was nearly broke, and with the passage of Proposal A and school reform we will see a much more stable source of income for school districts. School administration and school boards will be able to plan more effectively.

I support proper land use by developers. I would have to review the language as it relates to private property rights and private contractual agreement prior to expressing support for such laws.

Technology and Energy because telecommunications is the way information will travel in the future. Guaranteeing access to the information highway, and providing Michigan an economy where the information highway can foster job creation is a priority. Health Policy because the current federal debate on taking control away from patients into the hands of a government bureaucracy is something I oppose strongly. We must work to correct the wrongs in our current system.

LESLIE C. BALIAN Libertarian, 57

Education: Bachelor of Science, University of Michigan, 1985. Honored award winner.
Occupation: Independent Consultant, Computer Systems Software Development.
Background: Born and raised in Michigan. Worked in Detroit, Marquette, and Rochester. Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Oakland County, presently LPOC secretary. His memberships include The Universities of W.S.U. Hillary Thomas, DDOH Volunteer Council, DIA Founders Society, Pasadena Author Council, Friends of Adam Air, Rochester Symphony Guild, Greater Rochester Youth Club, League of Women Voters, school PTO secretary.

Public Act 25 must be repealed. We can't afford to support Goals 2000 (Outcome Based Education), which is an experiment that concentrates on student values and attitudes. Public school enrollment has declined yet projected total appropriations, excluding personnel costs, will increase 227% by 1997. P.A. 25 creates costly bureaucracies like Oakland Intermediate School District to insure schools conform to OBE. Our local school boards must control curriculum which focuses on strong academics, athletics, and arts.

The framers of the Constitution sought to ensure that our liberties and individual rights were beyond the control of the State Legislature. The United States is a Limited Constitutional Republic and not a Democracy. The State has no jurisdiction over Federally Patented Lands. The legislature must uphold the United States Constitution, and all state laws must also conform as well. Most land use plans are costly, overly restrictive, and tend to inhibit development by small businesses.

Education. The legislature is bucking under the Federal mandate of Goals 2000. The Tenth Amendment states mandates are unconstitutional. The World Bank and United Nations created the educational agenda of Goals 2000. Their goal is to reduce the child to a human resource, to meet the needs of the economy and the New World Order. The ultimate goal to OBE is the development of the politically-correct citizen in a globally-controlled socialist world.