



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, MICHIGAN

Michigan Questionnaire for Michigan House and Senate Candidates 2026

Dear Candidate:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire to educate the voters in your district.

1. Briefly provide biographical information, and relevant experiences, qualifications, and skills you bring to the position.

I have dedicated 39 years to public service, including over 20 years in the Air Force, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. I served 14 years on the Huron Valley School Board, including five years as President. I have worked under governors of both parties, serving as Chief Procurement Officer under Gov. Granholm, where I helped save taxpayers \$250 million. Under Gov. Snyder, I led international trade efforts and the Michigan Defense Center. Most recently, as Oakland County Deputy Executive under Dave Coulter, I oversaw economic and workforce development, helping to bring over \$2 billion in investments and 10,000+ good-paying jobs to our region.

2. What are the top three priority issues that the legislature should address?

Invest in public education. As a former Huron Valley School Board member and president, I have seen firsthand how strong public schools shape thriving communities. I will ensure educators have the resources and support they need, and that every student has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Make Michigan more affordable. I will work to make healthcare, childcare, and housing more accessible and affordable for Michigan families. On healthcare, I will fight for greater price transparency, work to prevent monopolization that drives up costs, and eliminate out-of-pocket costs for lifesaving prescription drugs like EpiPens and insulin. On childcare, I will expand state investments while cutting burdensome regulations that make it harder for quality providers to care for children. On housing, I will crack down on corporate landlords and create property tax credits to help seniors on fixed incomes remain in their homes.

Advocate for small businesses and job growth. As Oakland County Deputy Executive, I led initiatives that brought over \$2 billion in investments to the county, created over 10,000 new jobs, and delivered \$90 million in direct support to Main Street businesses in times of crisis. At the state level, I will continue my work to expand economic and workforce development opportunities.

- 3. Please answer the following questions on specific areas of concern to our members and supporters:**

EDUCATION

Background: *Michigan lawmakers periodically consider proposals that would allow public funds to be used to support students attending private or religious schools.*

Question:

- 1. What types of legislative proposals would you be most likely to support or oppose, and why?**

Our state's top responsibility is to the next generation. After 14 years serving on the Huron Valley School Board, including five years as president, I saw firsthand how decisions about school funding affect what happens in our classrooms. That experience reinforced for me that we need significant, sustained investments in public education so schools have the resources to meet the needs of every student. We also need stronger support for students with disabilities, including the staff and services necessary to provide them with a quality education.

Teachers, paraeducators, and school staff across the board are not being paid what they deserve. In some districts, staff are making below the poverty level and working multiple jobs just to get by. That is absolutely unacceptable. We cannot recruit and retain great staff to inspire our students without treating them with value. We must ensure they are adequately compensated and equipped with the support and flexibility to meet students where they are.

I support parents making the choice that is best for their kids, but public dollars must always stay in public schools. I am proud to have received the endorsements of the Michigan Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, and will always stand up for our schools.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Background: *In 2022, Michigan voters approved Reproductive Freedom For All (Proposal 3), which amended the Michigan Constitution to establish a constitutional right to reproductive freedom, including a right to choose abortion.*

Questions:

- 1. How should Michigan legislators approach future legislation that would affect reproductive healthcare in light of Proposal 3?**

We must continue to protect the constitutional right to reproductive freedom. Every Michigander deserves the freedom to make their own decisions about their own healthcare. That freedom begins with trusting people to make the choices that are best for themselves and their families. Reproductive healthcare decisions should be made by individuals and their healthcare providers, not politicians.

I'm proud to be endorsed by both the Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan and MI List. As a State Senator, I will protect the reproductive rights Michigan voters enshrined in our Constitution.

- 2. Should access to mifepristone (medication abortion, which is available through telemedicine and mail) be protected? If so, how can it be protected within Michigan's existing legal and regulatory framework? If not, please explain.**

Yes. Proposal 3 established a constitutional right to reproductive freedom in Michigan, and we must remain vigilant in protecting that right. Access to mifepristone, including through telemedicine and by mail, should remain available to Michiganders as part of that constitutional protection. As a State Senator, I will stand up for the protections Michigan voters approved in 2022 and oppose efforts to undermine access to reproductive healthcare.

HATE CRIME PREVENTION

Background: *In 2025, Michigan enacted the Michigan Hate Crimes Act, which expanded the state's hate crime law and established criminal penalties for offenses motivated by bias against protected characteristics. According to FBI data released in 2025, reported anti-Jewish hate crime incidents increased by 5.8% from 2023. In March*

2026, Temple Israel in West Bloomfield was the target of an attack that authorities investigated as a hate crime.

Questions:

- 1. What role should the Michigan Legislature play in implementing, evaluating, and, if necessary, modifying Michigan's hate crime laws to protect the safety of all communities from bias-motivated violence?**

The attack on Temple Israel in West Bloomfield was a painful reminder that antisemitism and hate are not abstract issues for our community—they are happening right here in Senate District 13. Over the course of this campaign, I have had the privilege of knocking on doors and getting to know members of our vibrant Jewish community. I have heard directly from neighbors about their concerns over rising antisemitism and hate crimes. Their safety is personal to me, and it will be one of my top legislative priorities.

I will work with Representative Noah Arbit to establish an Office of Hate Crime and Extremist Violence Prevention to bring together law enforcement, mental health professionals, faith leaders, educators, social media leaders, and others to develop a statewide strategy to help prevent hate crimes and extremist violence. The Legislature should also continue evaluating how our hate crime laws are working and make changes when necessary to ensure communities targeted by hate have meaningful protections. As a State Senator, I will work to make sure Michigan is doing everything it can to keep our communities safe.

- 2. Are there additional legislative or budget actions you would support or oppose to prevent hate crimes, improve law enforcement training and response, assist victims, or enhance security for communities that are at increased risk of bias-motivated violence?**

I support expanding state grants to help Jewish institutions strengthen their security. With rising antisemitism and threats against our Jewish community, these resources are more important than ever. These grants should help Jewish houses of worship, schools, and community centers make needed security improvements and provide safety training.

I also support strengthening Michigan's anti-terrorism laws and giving law enforcement the tools they need to investigate and prosecute terroristic threats. Legislation to strengthen these laws passed the State Senate unanimously

earlier this year, and I believe we should continue making sure law enforcement has the tools they need to respond to credible threats.

VOTING RIGHTS

Background: *In 2022, Michigan voters approved Promote The Vote 2022 (Proposal 2), which amended the Michigan Constitution to expand several voting policies, including early in-person voting, a permanent absentee voter list, and prepaid postage for absentee ballot applications and ballots. In Congress, proposals such as the federal SAVE Act have sought to establish additional federal requirements for voter registration and election administration, including documentary proof of U.S. citizenship to register to vote in federal elections. In Michigan, the Americans for Citizen Voting ballot proposal (which echoes the federal SAVE Act on a state level) seeks to place a constitutional amendment on Michigan's November 2026 ballot.*

Question:

1. What policies do you support or oppose regarding elections, access to the ballot and voting rights?

Every eligible voter should be able to participate in our elections safely, securely, and conveniently. I support passing a Michigan Voting Rights Act to protect the right to vote and ensure every Michigander has a fair opportunity to make their voice heard.

The Michigan Voting Rights Act would protect against voter suppression and vote dilution, expand language access for voters who need assistance, and increase transparency around changes to election rules and practices. These commonsense protections are important to making sure every eligible voter can participate in our democracy. As a State Senator, I will support efforts to protect access to the ballot and strengthen voting rights in Michigan.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Background: *Some lawmakers have proposed prohibiting the sale and manufacture of assault-style firearms for civilian use, while others believe such restrictions violate constitutional rights and would have little impact on violent crime.*

Question:

1. Do you support or oppose restricting civilian access to assault-style firearms? Please explain your position and the factors that would guide your vote.

Yes. We have seen the devastating impact these weapons can have when they are used in mass shootings, where shooters can fire more quickly and cause greater harm in a short period of time. As a State Senator, I will support responsible measures that protect our communities while respecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding gun owners. My focus will be on policies that can help prevent mass shootings and reduce gun violence while ensuring that we are not infringing on the rights of responsible citizens. I am proud to be recognized as a Gun Sense Candidate by Moms Demand Action.