1998 Elections

Vote on November 3

It's your right and responsibility

Thanks to the LWV for providing state candidate information

The League of Women Voters of Michigan contacted candidates for biographical information and answers to questions on issues. The answers are printed as submitted and have not been edited, except for necessary cutting when replies exceeded the stated word limitations. If the candidate did not reply by the required date for publication, the words "Did not respond in time for publication" appear under the candidate’s name.

Publication of these statements and opinions of candidates is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters. The League takes no responsibility for any of the views or facts stated by the candidates.

Partisan candidates are listed in the order in which their parties first registered as a Michigan political party. All others are in alphabetical order.

Candidates for the NMC Board of Trustees

The following four people are running for the two open positions on the Northwestern Michigan College Board of Trustees. Further information about these candidates can be obtained by calling them directly.

CHERYL GORE FOLLETTE --

Follette is running for reelection after serving 6 years. She works as a general practice attorney here in Traverse City.

ROBERT CHASE --

Chase has served on the NMC Board for 18 years and is running unopposed to fill the unexpired term of Bill Cunningham.

RICHARD BENEDET --

Benedict is a retired judge as of 1996, currently practicing law part time. He has not served on the board previously, and is "Hoping to restore the spirit present at NMC when he was a student here.

BILL JANIS --

Janis is currently finishing out the term vacated by Bill Cunningham. He is the CEO and Chairman of Century Specialties. He has been on the board since January.

MIKE TRAHEY --

Trahey is a local business owner.

It is not too late for absentee voter ballots

Who can apply?

Registered voters who are in one of the following categories:

- absent or expect to be absent from community;
- physically unable to attend polls;
- unable to attend due to religious tenets;
- election workers in another district;
- 60 years or older;
- confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

Where and When

- Apply to your township or city clerk by mail or in person by 2 p.m. Saturday, October 31, 1998. Emergency requests may be made until 4 p.m. on election day.

What is the return deadline?

- By 8 p.m. on election day. Persons qualified to vote by absentee voter ballot may vote in person in the clerk's office until 4 p.m. on the day preceding the election.
- For more information call your city or township clerk.
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GOVERNOR
FOUR-YEAR TERM
SALARY $127,300
VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE
The Governor is the chief executive officer of Michigan. The Governor administers the law, manages the financial affairs of the state, has extensive appointive powers and can veto bills passed by both houses.

1. Do you support vouchers or tuition tax credits for K-12 education?
2. Do you support campaign finance reform in Michigan?
3. Do the current laws concerning gun control need to be more restrictive?
4. Should Michigan change its approach to road improvement?
5. Do you favor competitive bidding on contracts awarded by the state?

John Engler (Republican)
Republicain, Real City; Age 49; Married to Michelle, they are parents of three-year-old triplet daughters. Graduate of MSU, 1971; Cooley Law School, 1981; Served in the Michigan House of Representatives, 1971-1978; served in Michigan Senate, 1979-1990; became Michigan's 46th governor, 1991; re-elected 1994 by second-largest vote plurality in state history.
1. No. I have supported no proposal to amend the constitution and I am not aware of any currently pending before voters.
2. Yes
3. No
4. Yes. We need to redefine responsibility for roads that make up Michigan's commercial highway system. Roads do not end at county or municipal boundaries and neither should the responsibility for roads. It is my intent to continue to negotiate voluntary agreements with local governments to ensure responsibilities are appropriately allocated among state and local governments.
5. Yes

Geoffrey Fieger (Democrat)
1. No
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. Yes

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
FOUR-YEAR TERM
SALARY $93,978
The Lieutenant Governor is elected at the same time as the Governor. The Lieutenant Governor performs duties prescribed by the Governor, is the presiding officer of the Senate and succeeds to the governorship if the Governor dies, resigns or is removed from office.

Dick Posthumus (Republican)
Jim Agee (Democrat)

SECRETARY OF STATE
FOUR-YEAR TERM
SALARY $112,439
The Secretary of State heads the Department of State which is responsible for maintaining the official records of the executive and administrative branches of state government. This includes the Bureau of Elections, Bureau of Automotive Regulation, Bureau of Driver and Vehicle Records, Branch Office Services Bureau, Bureau of Driver Improvement and Bureau of History.

Candice Miller (Republican)
Candice Miller was elected as Michigan's 46th Secretary of State and first woman ever to hold the office in 1994. She served 12 years as Harrison Twp. Supervisor and two years as Macomb County Treasurer. She is married to Donald Miller, they live in Harrison Twp. She has one daughter.

Mary Lou Parks (Democrat)
Mary Lou Parks was elected to the Michigan House in a special election in 1993. She currently serves on the Appropriations Committee. She is Vice-Chair of both the Family Independence Agency and Judiciary subcommittees. She has had a distinguished career in politics and is very active in her community.

Perry Spencer (Reform Party)
Twenty year veteran of the US Air Force, retired in 1995, awarded four Meritorious Service Medals, two AF Commendation Medals, and one AF Achievement Medal. Earned BS in Management from Park College, Missouri and MS in International Relations from Troy State University, Alabama while serving full time in the AF.

Jenniffer Granholm (Democrat)
Jennifer Granholm serves as Wayne County's Corporation Counsel, the county-level equivalent of the Attorney General, overseeing a staff of 75 employees and a budget of $9.5 million. Previously a prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's office, Granholm successfully handled hundreds of tough criminal cases and obtained a 98 percent conviction rate.

John Smietanka (Republican)

ATTORNEY GENERAL
FOUR-YEAR TERM
SALARY $112,439
The Attorney General is Michigan's chief law enforcement officer. He represents the state in legal actions and issues legal opinions and interpretations. His rulings commence to be law unless over-turned by a judge.

Matthew Abel
Suwan Borman
Michael Cavanagh
Jeffrey Collins

Maura Denise Corrigan
Jerry Jay Kaufman
David Raaflaub
Clifford Taylor

STATE SUPREME COURT
EIGHT-YEAR TERM
SALARY $124,770
The State Supreme Court is Michigan's highest court. The court hears cases on appellate from the lower courts. The seven justices decide by a majority vote which appeals will be heard. The Supreme Court also establishes the procedural rules for the lower courts. It may issue an advisory opinion on the constitutionality of a law at the request of the legislature or the governor.

Carole Youngblood
1998 Elections

State ballot proposals

**Proposal**

Proposed constitutional amendment would change the word "handicapped" to "disabled" in the State Constitution. The proposed constitutional amendment would change the word "handicapped" to "disabled" in Article VII, Section 8 of the State Constitution.

**Title:** To authorize bonds for environmental and natural resources protection programs.

**The proposal would:**
1. Authorize the State of Michigan to borrow up to $42 million to finance environmental and natural resources protection programs that would clean up contaminated sites, protect and improve water quality, protect and improve air quality, protect and improve soil quality, protect and improve wildlife quality, protect and improve agricultural quality, and clean up contaminated sediments in lakes, rivers and streams.
2. Authorize the state to issue general obligation bonds pledging the full faith and credit of the state or the payment of principal and interest on the bonds.
3. Provide for repayment of the bonds from the general fund of the state.

**Should this proposed constitutional amendment be adopted?**

**Proposal**

Initiate legislation to legalize the prescription of a lethal does of medication to a terminally ill, competent, informed adult in order to commit suicide.

**The proposal would:**
1. Allow a Michigan resident or certain out-of-state relatives of Michigan resident diagnosed by a physician to be mentally competent, and 2-physicians to be terminally ill with 6 months to live to obtain a lethal does of medication to end his/her life.
2. Allow physicians, after following required procedures, to prescribe a lethal does of medication to enable a terminally ill adult to end his/her life.
3. Establish a gubernatorially appointed, publicly-funded oversight committee, exempt from Freedom of Information Act.
4. Create penalties for violating law.

**Should this proposal be approved?**

**Proposal**

Amend the state constitution to change the word "handicapped" to "disabled" in Article VII, Section 8 of the State Constitution.

**Title:** To authorize bonds for environmental and natural resources protection programs.

**The proposal would:**
1. Authorize the State of Michigan to borrow up to $42 million to finance environmental and natural resources protection programs that would clean up contaminated sites, protect and improve water quality, protect and improve air quality, protect and improve soil quality, protect and improve wildlife quality, protect and improve agricultural quality, and clean up contaminated sediments in lakes, rivers and streams.
2. Authorize the state to issue general obligation bonds pledging the full faith and credit of the state for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds.
3. Provide for repayment of the bonds from the general fund of the state.

**Should this proposed constitutional amendment be adopted?**

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**University Governing Boards**

**EIGHT-YEAR TERMS**

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE UNPAID**

Michigan's public four-year universities and colleges are exempt from supervision by the State Board of Education. They have their own governing boards with supervisory authority.

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

**VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO**

- David Brandon (Republican)
- Jesse Dalman (Republican)
- Philip Power (Democrat)
- Kathy White (Democrat)
- Ray Vinton (Reform Party)
- William Hall (Libertarian)
- James Montgomery (Libertarian)
- William Quarton (Natural Law Party)
- Ana Rappaport (Natural Law Party)

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY TRUSTEES**

**VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO**

- Dev Cook (Republican)
- Dave Porteous (Republican)
- John Schnitzer (Democrat)
- Doris Sim (Democrat)
- Barbara Gough (Libertarian)
- Mark Heil (Libertarian)

**WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD-OF-GOVERNORS**

**VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO**

- Vernice Davis-Anthony (Republican)
- Elizabeth Hardy (Republican)
- Ronald Allen (Democrat)
- John Kelly (Democratic)
- Scoty Boman (Libertarian)
- Thomas Jones (Libertarian)

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**Grand Traverse Ballot Proposals**

**Bata Proposal** — Shall up to 0.18 mills for a period up to five (5) years be levied on all taxable property in Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties for Bata public transportation purposes? If levied entirely in the first calendar year this millage would raise an estimated $547,267.

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**Traverse City Ballot Proposals**

**Proposal 1:** Purpose: The purpose of this amendment is to separate elect a mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for two-year terms and to divide the City into five areas, with each to elect a City Commissioner and an Alternative Commissioner for four-year terms. Currently all seven City Commissioners are elected city-wide and they annually decide which one will be Mayor and Mayor-Pro-Tem.

Shall the Charter of the City of Traverse City be amended to divide the City into five wards with each to elect a separate Commissioner and Alternate for four-year terms, and elect the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem at-large for two-year terms?

**Proposal 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this amendment is to increase the members of the Elections Commission to the City Clerk and three voters, instead of the current membership consisting of the City Clerk, City Manager and City Attorney. The duties of the Elections Commission are not changed. Shall the Charter of the City of Traverse City be amended to have an Elections Commission consisting of the City Clerk and three registered voters who are not in default to the City?
**1998 Elections**

**Candidates for the 104th Congressional District**

**Jason Allen** is a graduate of Traverse City Central High School. He continued his education at Northwestern Michigan College and remains on the Alumni Board. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Finance from Miami University in Ohio. Allen served on the Grand Traverse Board of Commission and is a member of the Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce. Allen is the vice president of sales for the Captain's Quarters on Front Street.

**Jane Hayes** has been a Traverse City resident for 17 years. Hayes graduated from Worcester State College in Pennsylvania with a Bachelor’s degree in education and from Michigan State University with a Master’s Degree in Social Work. She is also a graduate of the McPherson College in Pennsylvania. Hayes has been active in several committees, including the Traverse City School Board as President and Secretary, the League of Women Voters, Academy of Certified Social Workers and the Michigan Association of School Boards.

**Candidates for the 36th State Senate District**

**Joel Casler**, 41, has been a resident of Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties for the past 17 years. Casler graduated in 1973 from Holt High School in Holt, MI. He graduated from ITT Technical Institute in Fort Wayne, IN in 1978 with an Associate’s Degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. Casler has been a Precinct Delegate to the Grand Traverse County Democratic Party and State Conventions and a member of the Grand Traverse County Board of Canvassers. Casler has been involved in several community activities, including 4-H, WWII Memorial Fund, Grand Traverse County Conservation District, American Red Cross and Center Charter Churches.

**George McManus** is currently serving as senator in the 36th district. He served as state senator in the 37th district from 1995 to 1994. McManus currently chairs the Agriculture, Agribusiness and Food Systems Committee and is a member of the Hunting, Fishing and Agriculture and Appropriations committees. He chairs two subcommittees: Agriculture and Natural Resources and Environmental Quality. McManus has a bachelor of science and a master’s of science from Michigan State University. He has served as president of the Rotary Club, secretary of Rotary Charities, a member of the Knights of Columbus, Farm Bureau of Northwest Michigan, National Federation of Independent Businesses, St. Francis Church, the Elk Club and Munson Hospital Centenarians.

**Michelle McManus (Republican)**

State Representative Michelle McManus lives with her husband, Keith Nelson, and step-daughter, Jessica, in Leelanau. Mary Kathleen Nelson was born to Michelle and Keith, March 2, 1998. McManus earned a B.S. in Political Science at Central Michigan University. She is serving her third term in the House of Representatives.

1. **Yes**
2. **Yes**
3. As the most powerful nation on Earth, we have a national interest in world peace. However, we should not be militarily involved in local disputes in which we have no national interests.
4. **Yes**. As a member of the Conservation, Committee for the past six years in the House of Representatives, I believe we have adequate laws in place for the protection of public health.
5. **Yes**. The Congress should continue the Office of Special Prosecutor with certain changes.

**Bart Stupak (Democrat)**

Former MSP trooper and former state legislator, Bart Stupak received his law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. He lives in Menominee, Michigan, with wife Laurie and sons, Ken and Bart Jr. He is completing a third term representing Michigan’s 1st Congressional District, and serves on the Commerce Committee.

1. **Yes**. The Congress should continue the Office of Special Prosecutor with certain changes.
2. **Yes**. Everyone must have adequate health care.
3. **Yes**. US must not shy away from its world leader role as peace maker.
4. **No**. Especially in food safety, tobacco legislation, and Great Lakes water diversion.
5. **Yes**. Revamp IT!

**John Loosmore (Liberatarian)**


1. **No**
2. **No**
3. **No**
4. **Yes**
5. **Yes**

I do not propose to go to Washington to pursue short-term goals, such as increased road funding or federal grants for local businesses. Such goals basically amount to pork-barreling, and reduce our elected representatives to professional beggars. Rather, I seek more fundamental changes: reduction of government to its constitutional role; preservation of our freedoms; a balanced budget amendment; a plan to reduce the national debt; eventual reduction of the taxes we send to Washington.

**Wendy Conway (Natural Law Party)**

Wendy Conway has been a resident of Northern Michigan for twenty one years and is co-owner of the Wilderness Park General Store. She has been active in community and environmental groups, currently serving as treasurer for the Grain Train, which fund shares co-operative and secretary for the Natural Law Party of Michigan.

1. **Yes**. Eliminate PAC and soft-money funding of campaigns.
2. **Yes**. Support health strategies that focus on prevention and strengthen the general health of the nation, thereby shifting our national focus from disease care to health care.
3. **Yes**. Through the creation of a prevention wing within the military, a group whose primary function is to prevent the outbreak of war and to strengthen and preserve national and international peace.
4. **Yes**. Eliminate subsidies for polluting energies, support clean renewable sources.
5. **No**