

2012 General Election
“A Pollster’s Perspective”
U.P. Energy Conference
October 16, 2012

By

Steve Mitchell, President

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**Mitchell Research &
Communications, Inc.**

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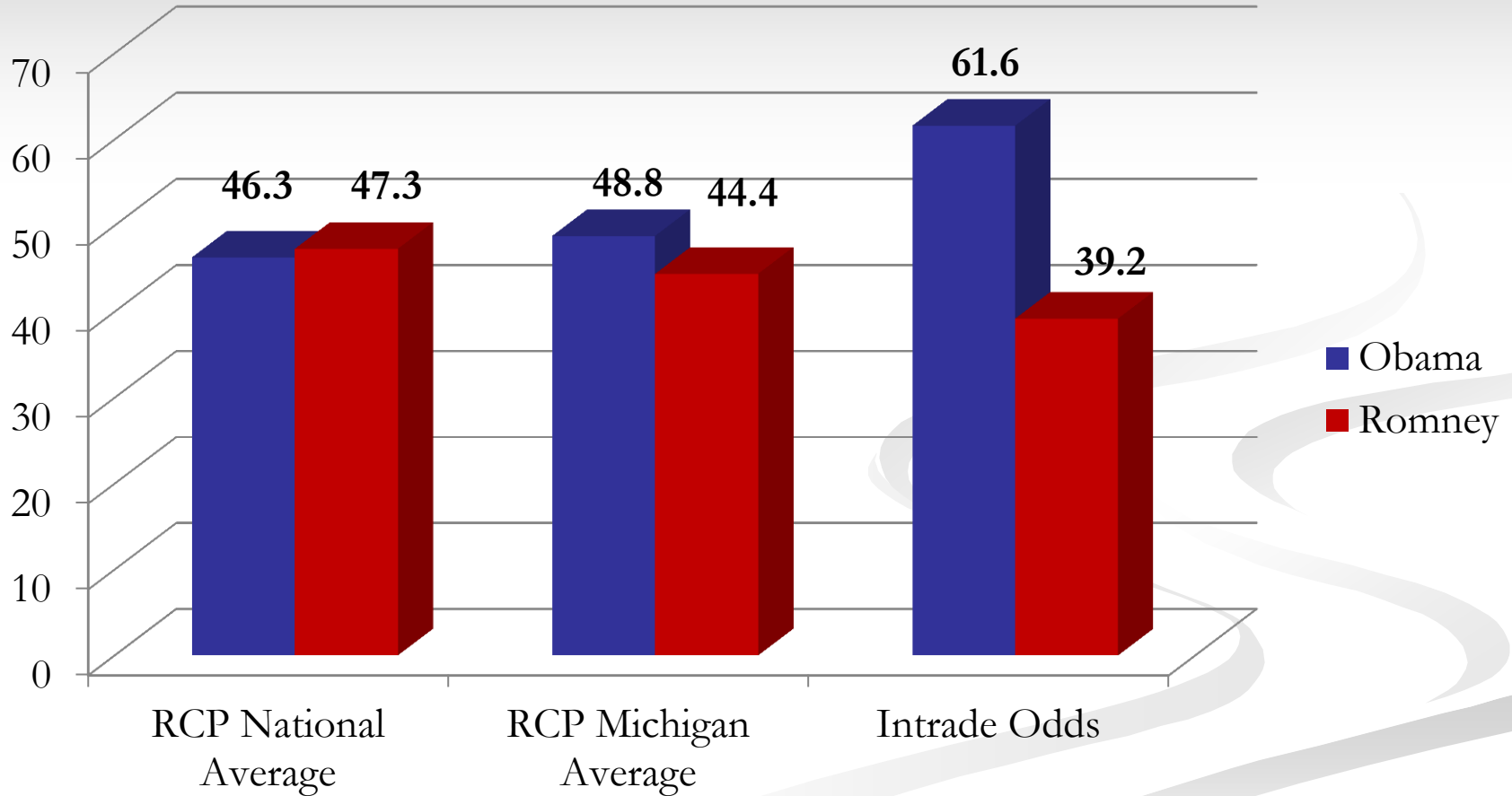
**PRESIDENTIAL RACE
NATIONAL/MICHIGAN
PAST & PRESENT**

Presidential Candidates

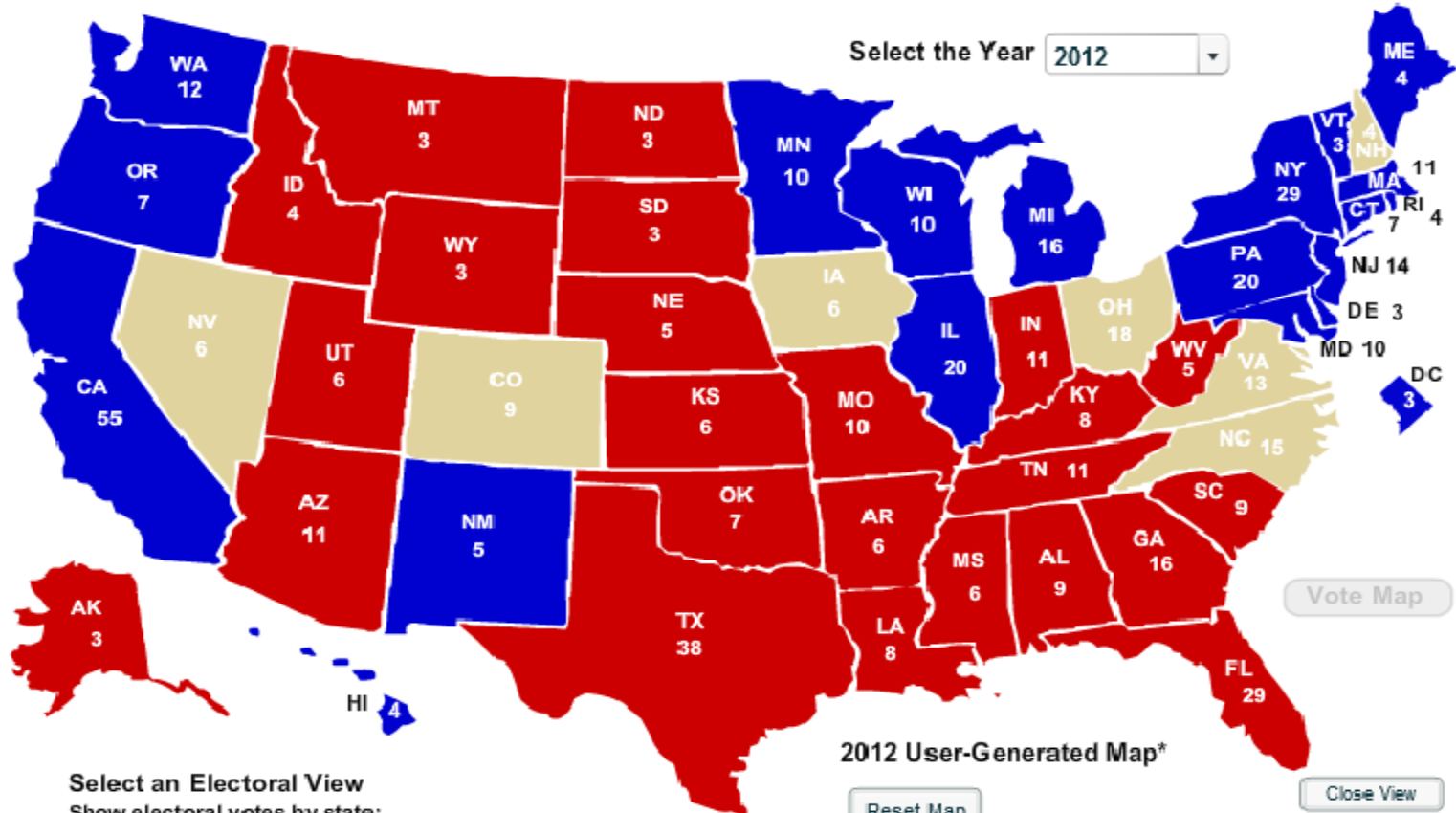
Romney/Ryan vs. Obama/Biden



Presidential Election 2012



Electoral Vote Margin



Select an Electoral View
 Show electoral votes by state:



Toss Up States Most Recent Polling Averages

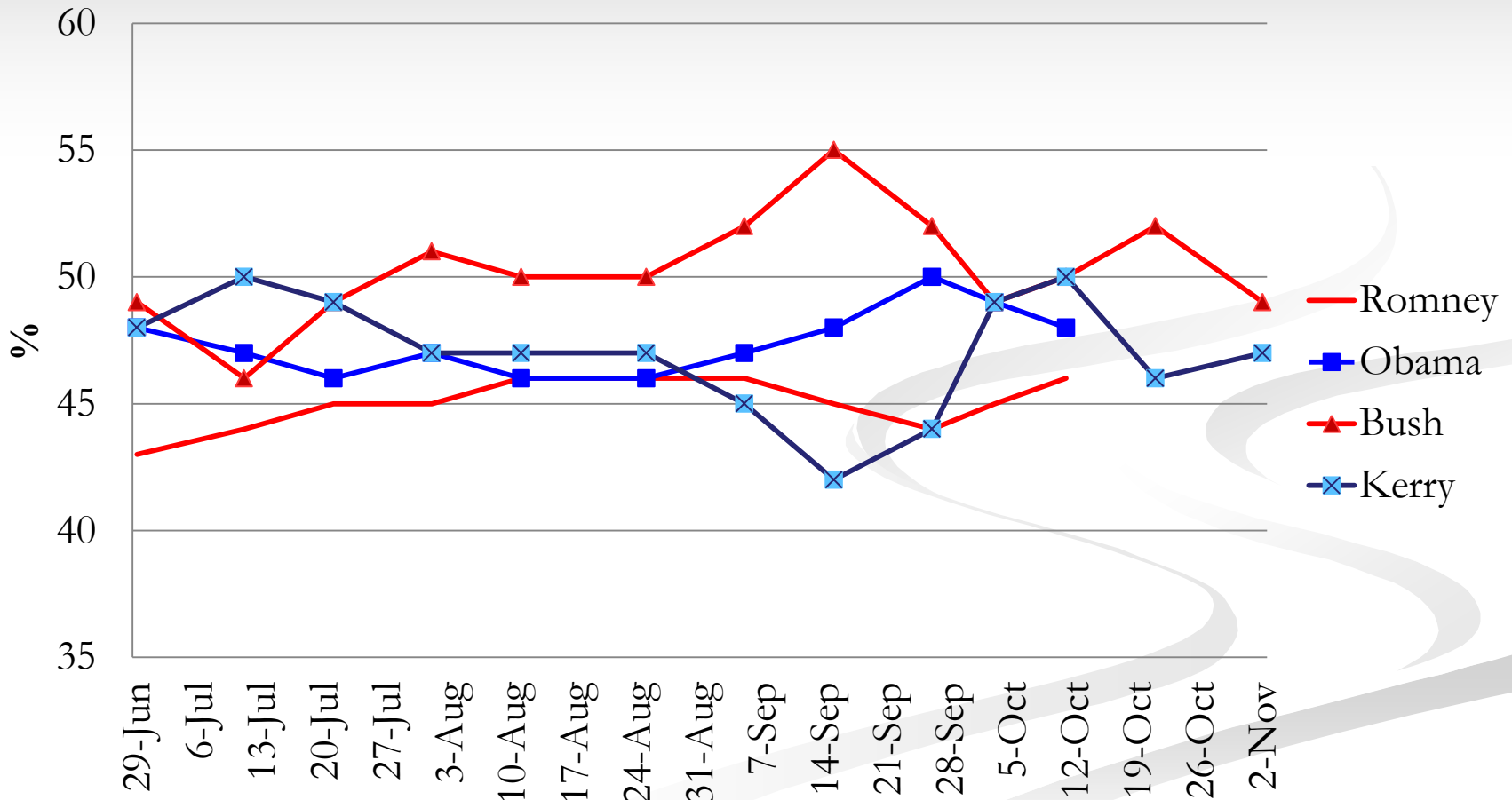
	Obama	Romney	Spread
Nevada	48.2	46.6	+1.6
Iowa	48.6	45.4	+3.2
Ohio	47.6	46.3	+1.3
Virginia	48.0	47.6	+.4
New Hampshire	48.0	47.3	+.7
Colorado	47.0	47.7	-.7
North Carolina	46.0	49.3	-3.3

2012 vs. 2004 Likely Voters

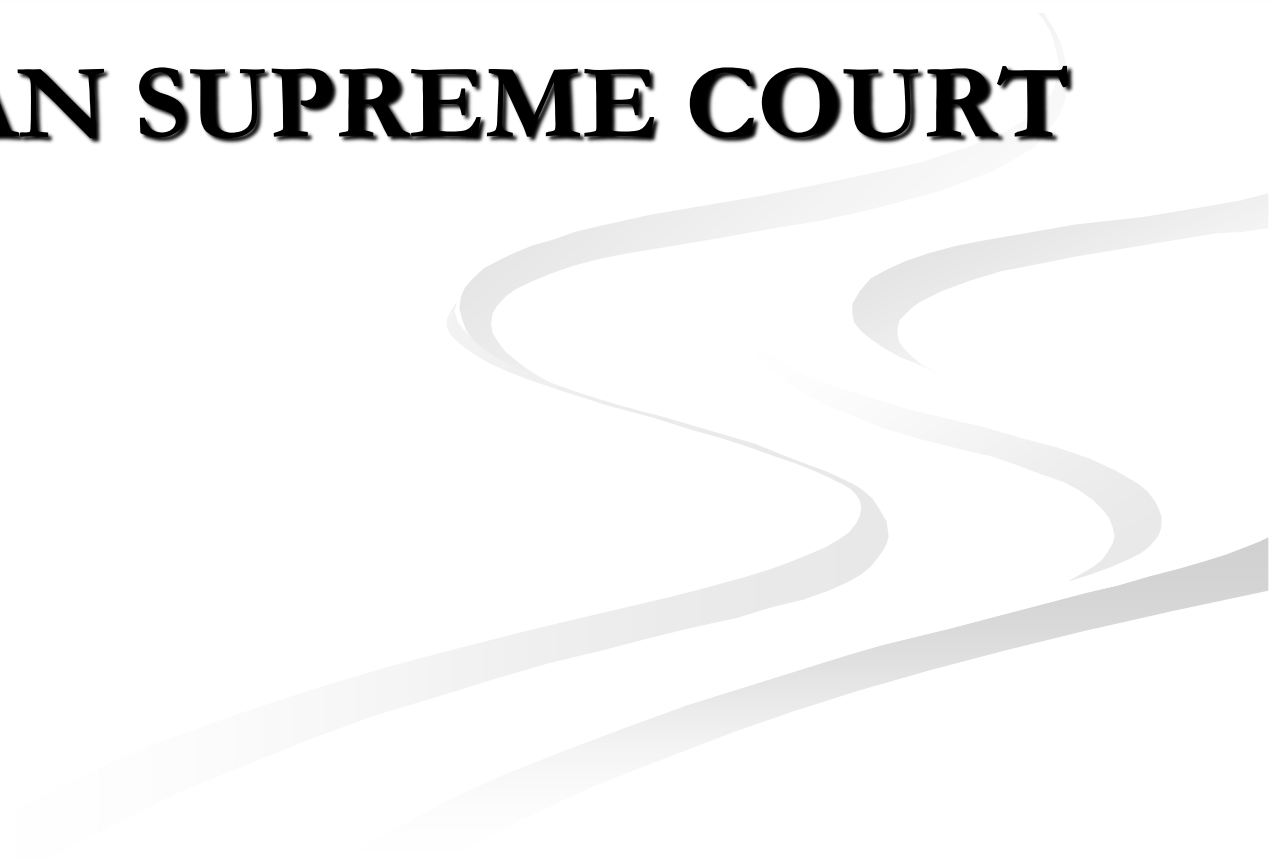
- 2012--*“Suppose the presidential election were held today. If Barack Obama were the Democratic Party’s candidate and Mitt Romney were the Republican Party’s candidate, who would you vote for Barack Obama, the Democrat or Mitt Romney, the Republican?”*
- 2004--(Asked of Nader voters) *“If Ralph Nader is not on the ballot in your state on Election Day, would you vote for – Kerry and Edwards, the Democrats (or) Bush and Cheney, the Republicans? As of today, do you lean more toward – Kerry and Edwards, the Democrats (or) Bush and Cheney, the Republicans?”*

2012 vs. 2004 Likely Voters

Likely Voters of 2012 vs. 2004 Presidential Election



MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Michigan Supreme Court

- The Michigan Supreme Court currently has 4 Republicans and 3 Democrats giving the Republicans control. The four Republicans are considered to be conservative and pro-business. The three Democrats are more liberal, pro-unions, and more anti-business.
- Two incumbents, both Republican, are up for election. Stephen Markman is running for re-election and Brian Zahra who was appointed by Gov. Snyder when a justice resigned to work in Snyder's cabinet, is running to be elected for the first time.

Michigan Supreme Court

- The political parties nominate justices but they run on the non-partisan ballot, on November 6th, once nominated.
 - Republicans
 - Colleen O'Brien
 - Stephen J. Markman
 - Brian K. Zahra
 - Democrats
 - Shelia Johnson
 - Connie Marie Kelley
 - Bridget Mary McCormack

MI Supreme Court Republicans

- Colleen O'Brien
- Stephen Markman
- Brian Zahra



MI Supreme Court Republicans

■ Colleen O'Brien

- Currently serves on the Oakland Circuit Court Criminal/Civil Division

■ Stephen Markman

- Appointed Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court on October 1, 1999
- Elected in 2000 to complete term and re-elected in 2004

■ Brian Zahra

- Appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court on January 14, 2011 by Gov. Rick Snyder
- A former Court of Appeals judge

MI Supreme Court Democrats

- Shelia Johnson
- Connie Marie Kelley
- Bridget Mary McCormack



MI Supreme Court Democrats

■ Shelia Johnson

- Nominee for the Michigan Supreme Court
- Chief Judge Pro Tem, 46th District Court located in Southfield, MI
- Attorney, private practice – civil and criminal litigation

■ Connie Marie Kelley

- Judge, Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court
- Attorney, private practice – family, employment, and discrimination law

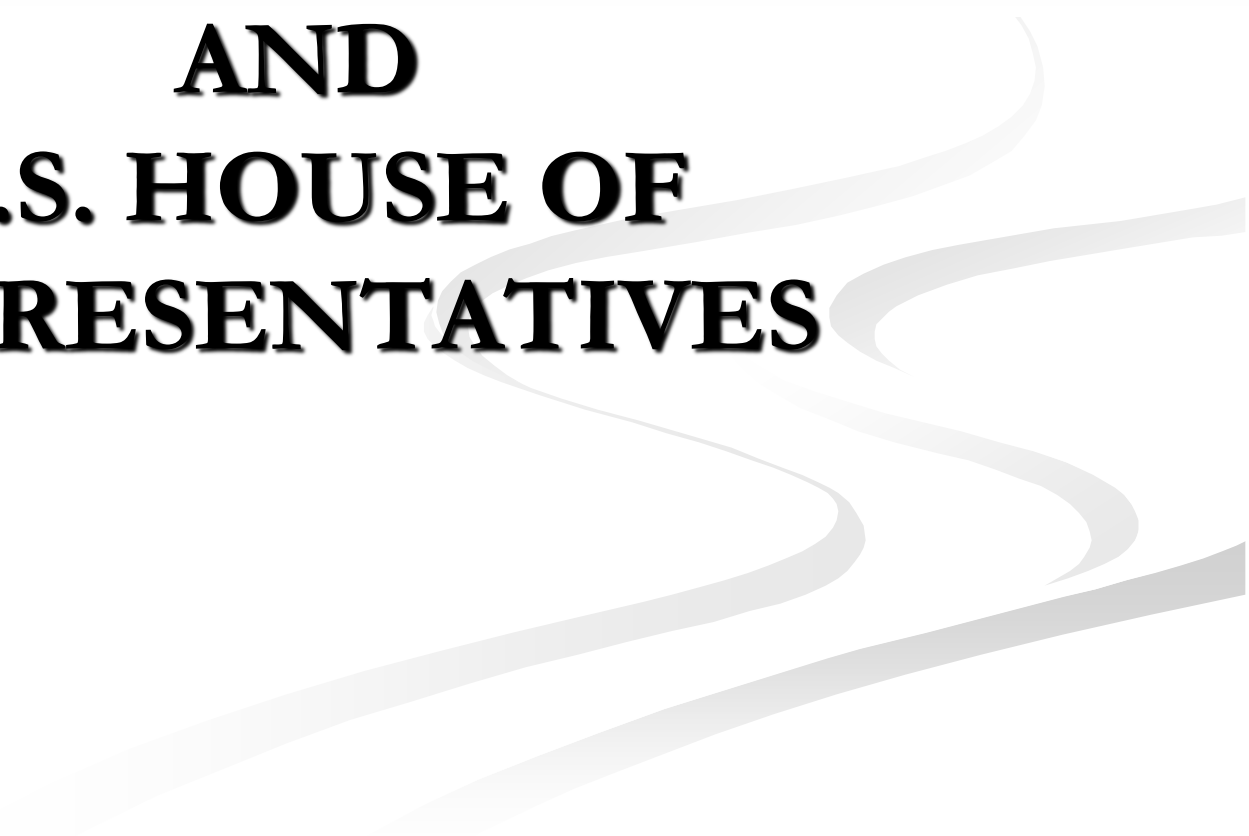
■ Bridget Mary McCormack

- Dean of Clinical Affairs, University of Michigan Law School
- Legal Fellow, Yale Law School

Michigan Supreme Court

- There will be two separate Supreme Court election contests.
 - In one contest, Connie Marie Kelley, Bridget McCormack, Stephen J. Markman, and Colleen O'Brien will run against each other. The two top vote getters in that contest will win 8-year terms on the Court.
 - Shelia Jackson and Brian K. Zahra will run against each other for the remainder of the term that expires at the end of 2014.
- Zahra and Markman will likely win along with McCormack. However, the business community has been angry with the Republicans for allowing so many pro-union proposals to be put on the ballot. Therefore, at this time Republicans are being out spent. If that continues, the Democrats could do better.

**U.S. SENATE
AND
U.S. HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**

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Senate and House of Representatives Breakdown

- There are currently 47 Republicans and 51 Democrats and 2 Independents in the U.S. Senate.
- There are currently 242 Republicans and 193 Democrats in the House of Representatives.

U.S. Senate Michigan

Debbie Stabenow



- Democrat
- Serves as Co-Chair of the bipartisan Senate Manufacturing Caucus and was appointed to the President's Export Council by Pres. Bush and Pres. Obama
- First woman from MI elected to the US Senate

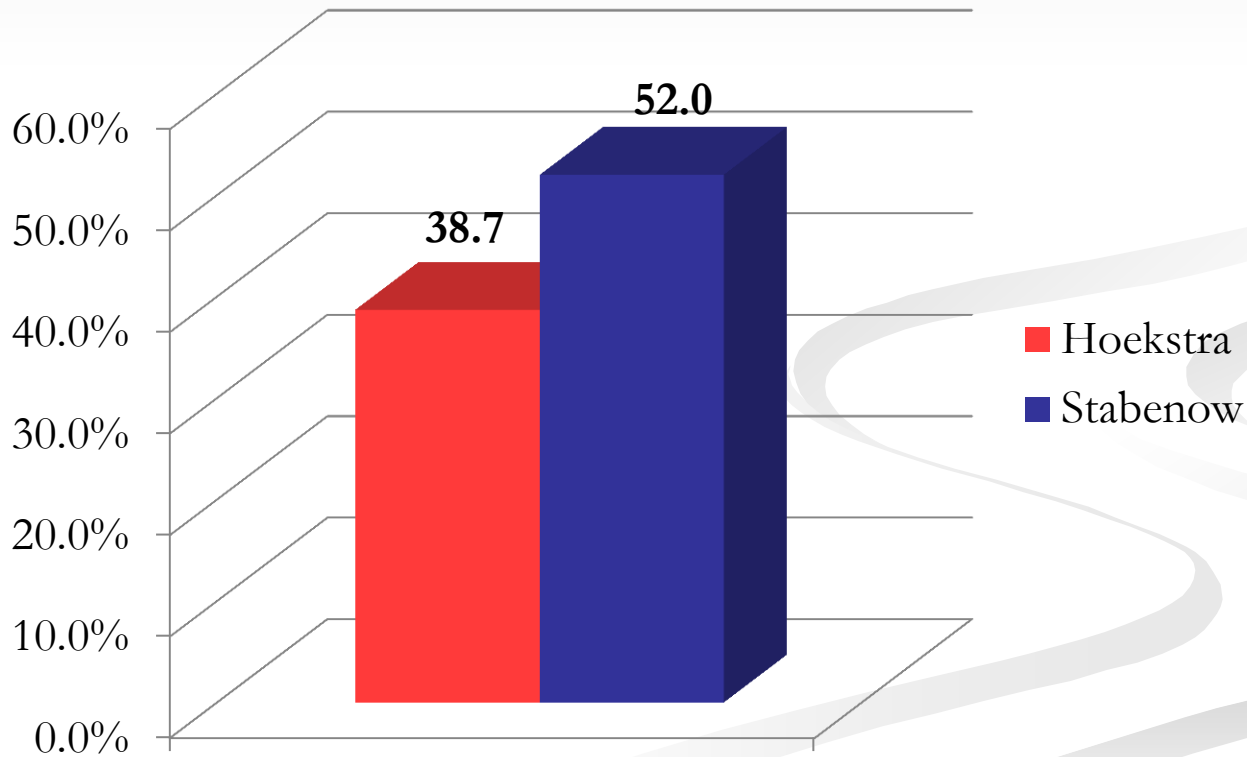
Pete Hoekstra



- Republican
- Represented Michigan's 2nd Congressional District in the US Congress (1993-2010)
- In the US House, he's served on numerous committees
 - i.e. Education and Labor, Budget, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

2012 U.S. Senate Race

■ Hoekstra vs. Stabenow



2012 U.S. Senate Race

- In Michigan, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow seems to be on a path to win a decisive victory over former U.S. Congressman Pete Hoekstra. Hoekstra is getting outspent dramatically and now trails by more than 12%.

Competitive Seats

The most competitive seats for the 2012 Election are...

- Arizona 1st
- Arizona 2nd
- California 7th
- California 41st
- California 52nd
- Connecticut 5th
- Florida 26th
- Georgia 12th
- Illinois 12th
- Iowa 3rd
- **Michigan 1st**
- Minnesota 8th
- New Hampshire 2nd
- New York 1st
- New York 11th
- New York 24th
- New York 27th
- North Carolina 8th
- Ohio 6th
- Ohio 16th
- Pennsylvania 12th
- Utah 4th

U.S. House of Representatives

Michigan

- There are 5 projected Democratic seats and 9 projected Republican seats for the U.S. House of Representatives.
- The most heated battle is in the 1st Congressional District in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.
- In 2010, Dr. Dan Benishek (R) defeated state Rep. Gary McDowell (D) by 11%. This year, they are both running again.

Michigan's 1st Congressional District

Dan Benishek



- Republican
- U.P physician
- U.S. House of Representative for Michigan's 1st Congressional District since January 2011

Gary McDowell



- Democrat
- Represented the 107th District in the Michigan State House of Representative from January 2005-January 2011

1st Congressional District

Michigan

- In Michigan, the only close race seems to be in the 1st CD where Gary McDowell is running against U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek again. Benishek beat McDowell by a wide margin two years ago to replace retiring U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak.
- The race should be closer this year than two years ago. However, Obama won the area that now comprises the new 1st District by less than 2% in 2008. Since Obama won the state by 16%, this is a weak showing. It is very likely Romney will win the 1st Congressional District this year, hurting McDowell's chances. Going back to 1966, no incumbent congressman from this district has been defeated. They have all retired. Two of three might have been defeated had they sought re-election, but they didn't.
- Benishek is most likely to win.

Michigan

House of Representatives

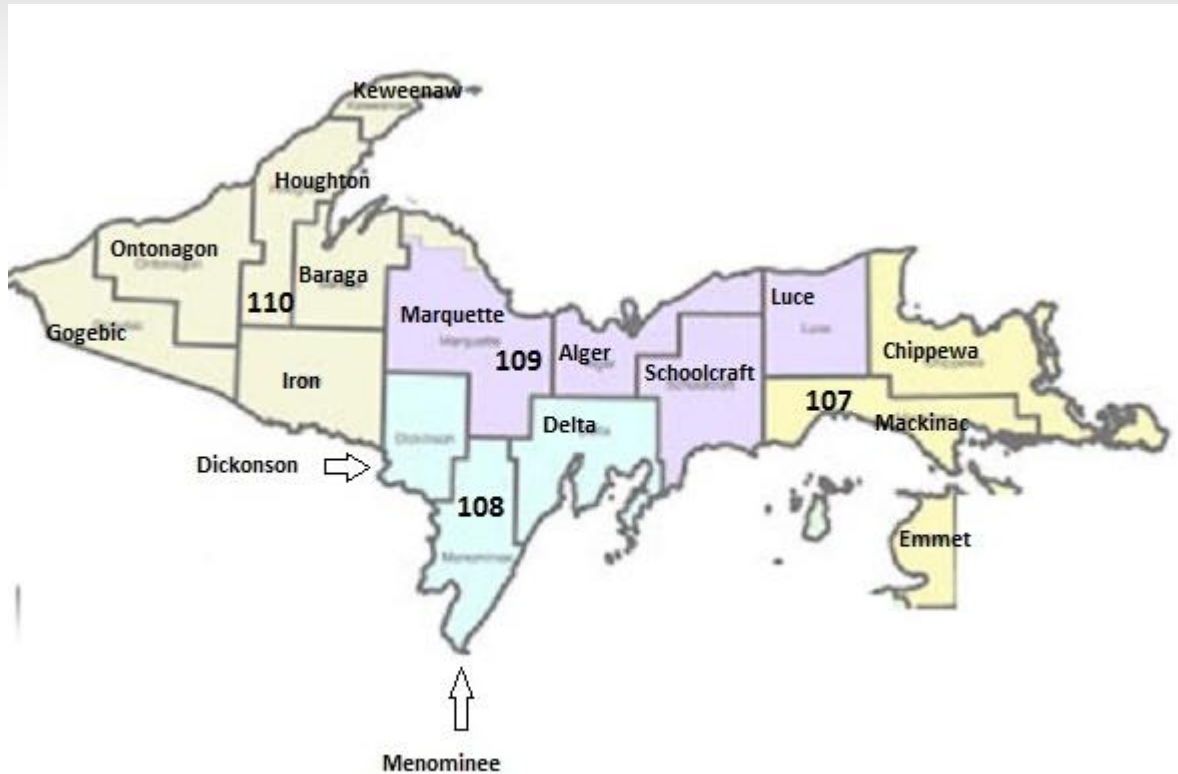
- All 110 seats are up for election this year.
- The Republicans control the Michigan House by a 64-46 margin.
- Up to 20 seats are competitive and we will take a look at a number of those races.
- With that in mind, I believe House Republicans will lose some seats in 2012 but that they will retain control.

Michigan

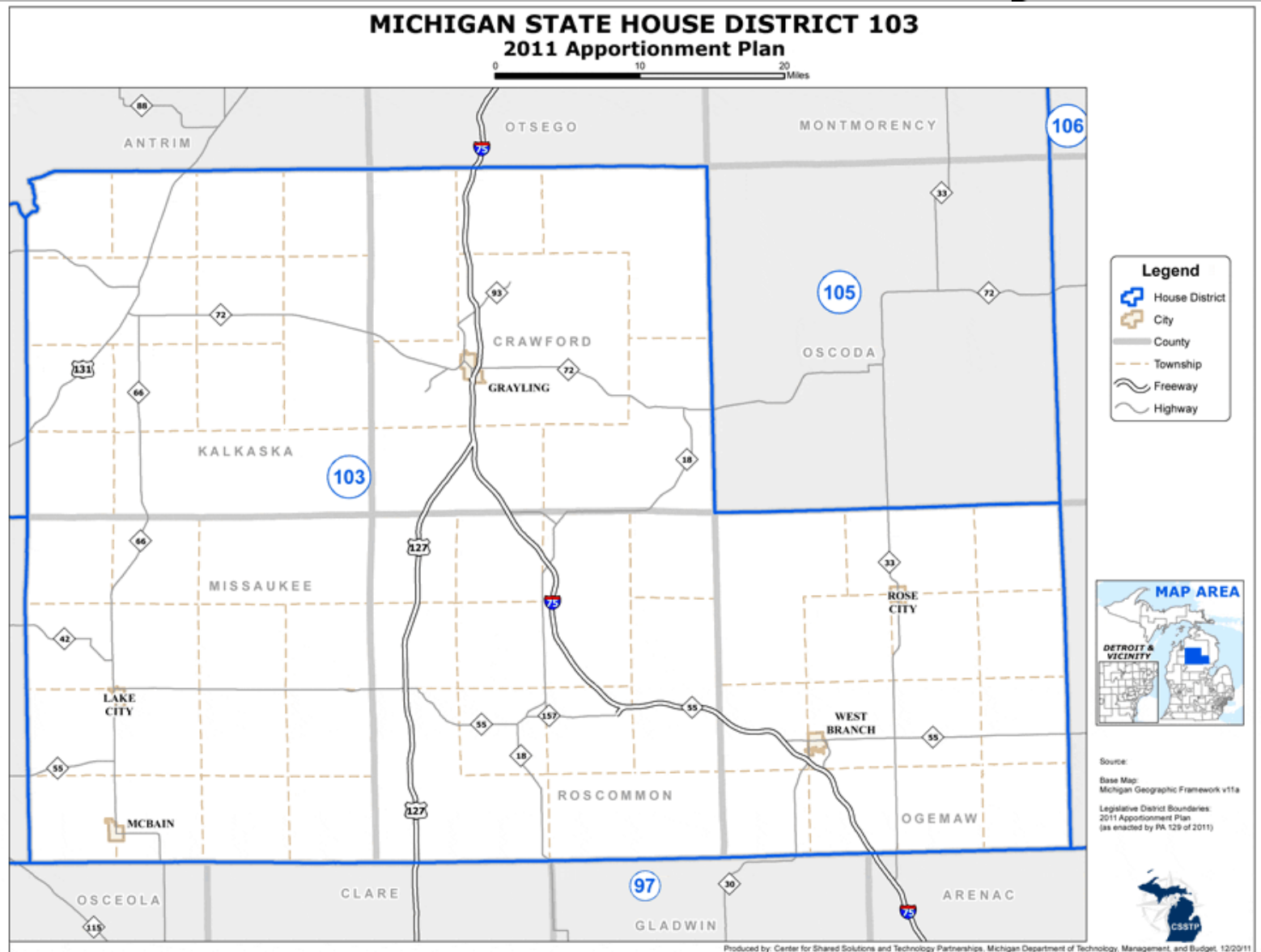
House of Representatives

- The Michigan House should remain Republican. Speaker of the House of Representatives Jase Bolger has been strongly criticized for his part in getting a Democrat in the Grand Rapids area to change parties, giving the Republicans 64 seats in the 110 member House. The Republicans will lose seats, but at this time it looks as though they will remain in control. They may have less than 60 seats, but they should have at least 56 seats to stay in control.

Michigan's U.P. House Districts



House District 103 Map



103rd HD

*Bruce Rendon



- Republican
- Current State Representative
Elected in 2010
- Serves on House committees for agriculture; families, children and seniors; local governmental and regional affairs; and regulatory reform

Lon Johnson

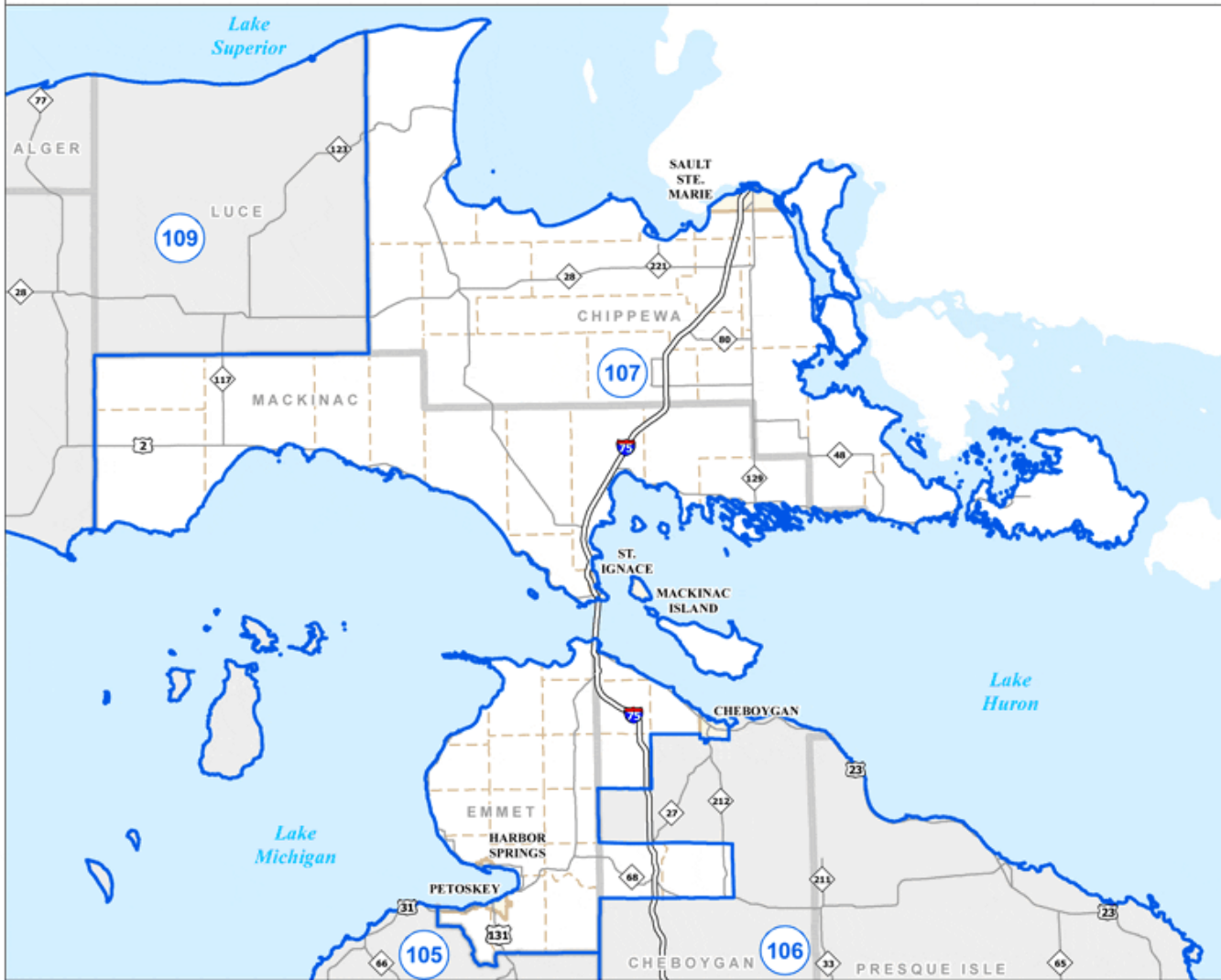


- Democrat
- Worked in Iraq in 2005 as a civilian to help create a democracy
- Worked on the Vice President Al Gore and Congressman John Dingell's Campaigns

House District 107 Map

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 107 2011 Apportionment Plan

0 10 20 Miles



Legend

- House District
- City
- County
- Township
- Freeway
- Highway



Source:
Base Map:
Michigan Geographic Framework v11a
Legislative District Boundaries:
2011 Apportionment Plan
(as enacted by PA 129 of 2011)



107th HD

*Frank Foster



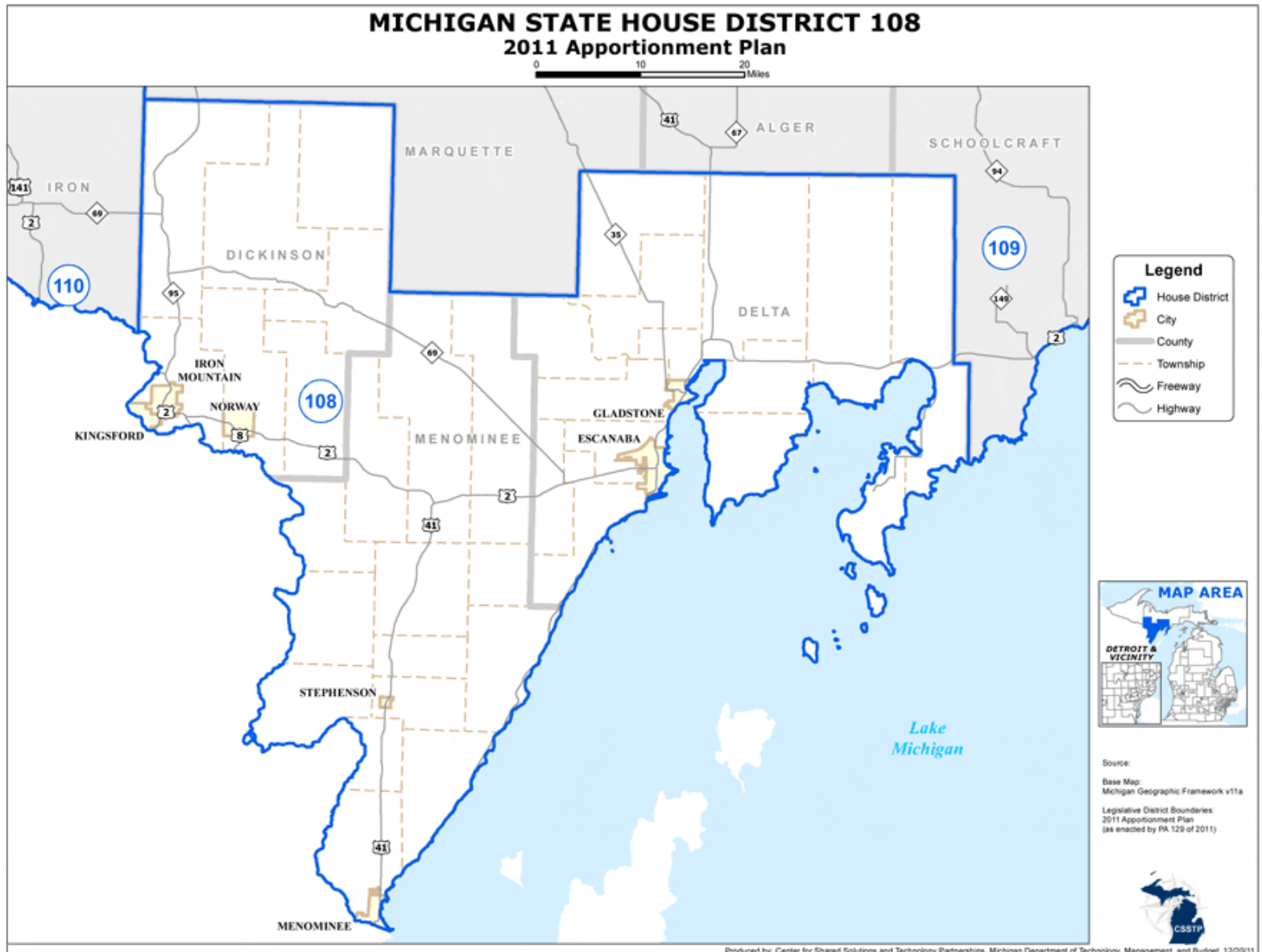
- Republican
- Business Administration degree from Grand Valley State
- Elected to house in 2012, with a 63% victory
- Member on the House Tax Policy Committee, and House Banking and Finance Committee

Suzanne Shumway



- Democrat
- Teaches English and Speech at North Central Michigan College for the past 10 years
- Not a career politician

House District 108 Map



108th HD

***Ed McBroom**



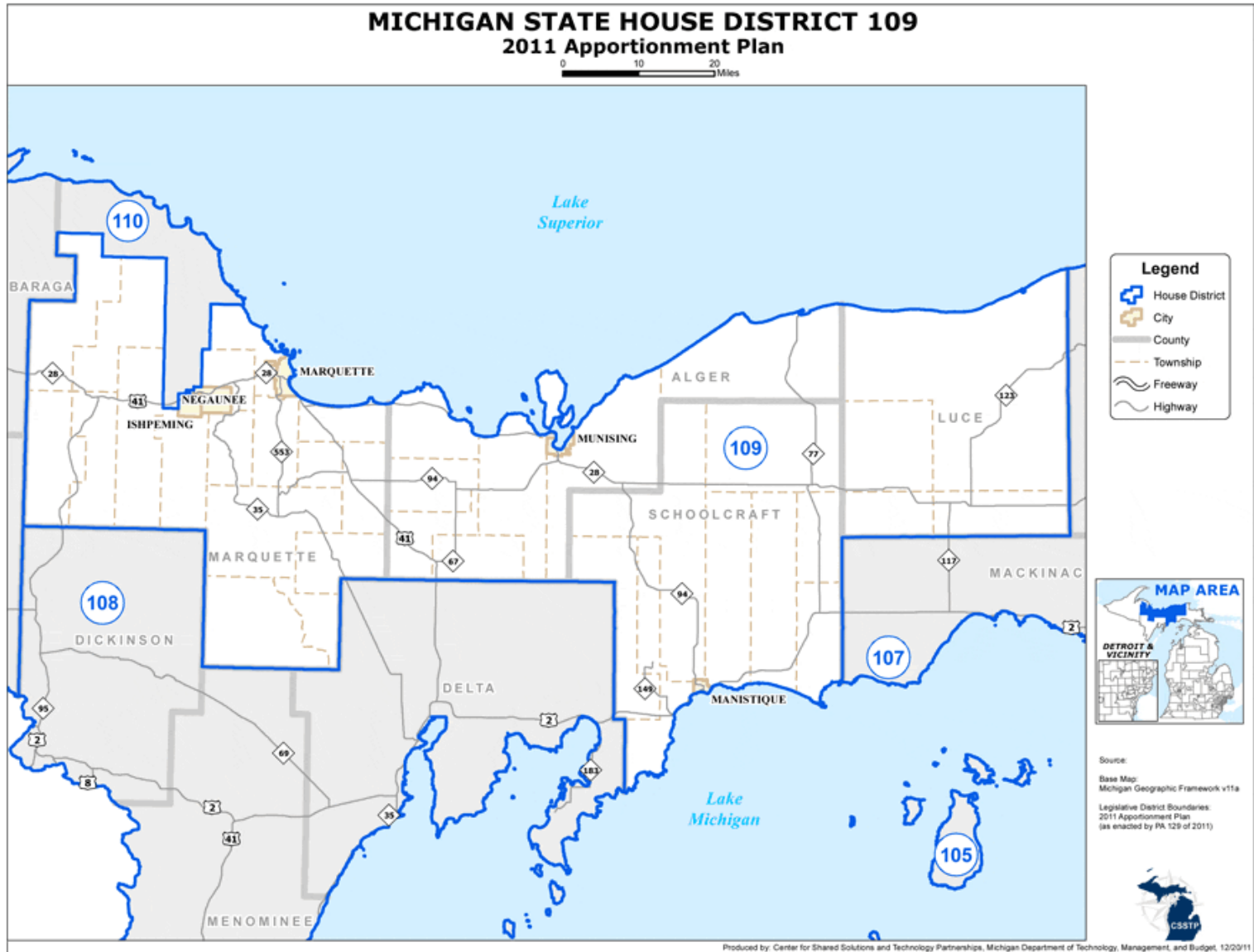
- Republican
- First elected in 2010
- NMU alumni with degree in Music Education and Social Studies Education
- Vice chair of the House Redistricting and Elections Committee

Sharon Gray



- Democrat
- Degree from LSSU
- Currently a Certified Public Accountant

House District 109 Map



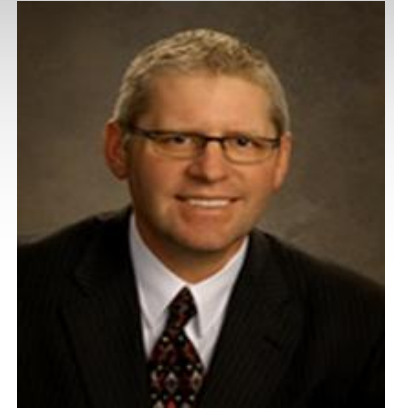
109th HD – Open (Lindberg -D)

Jack Hubbard



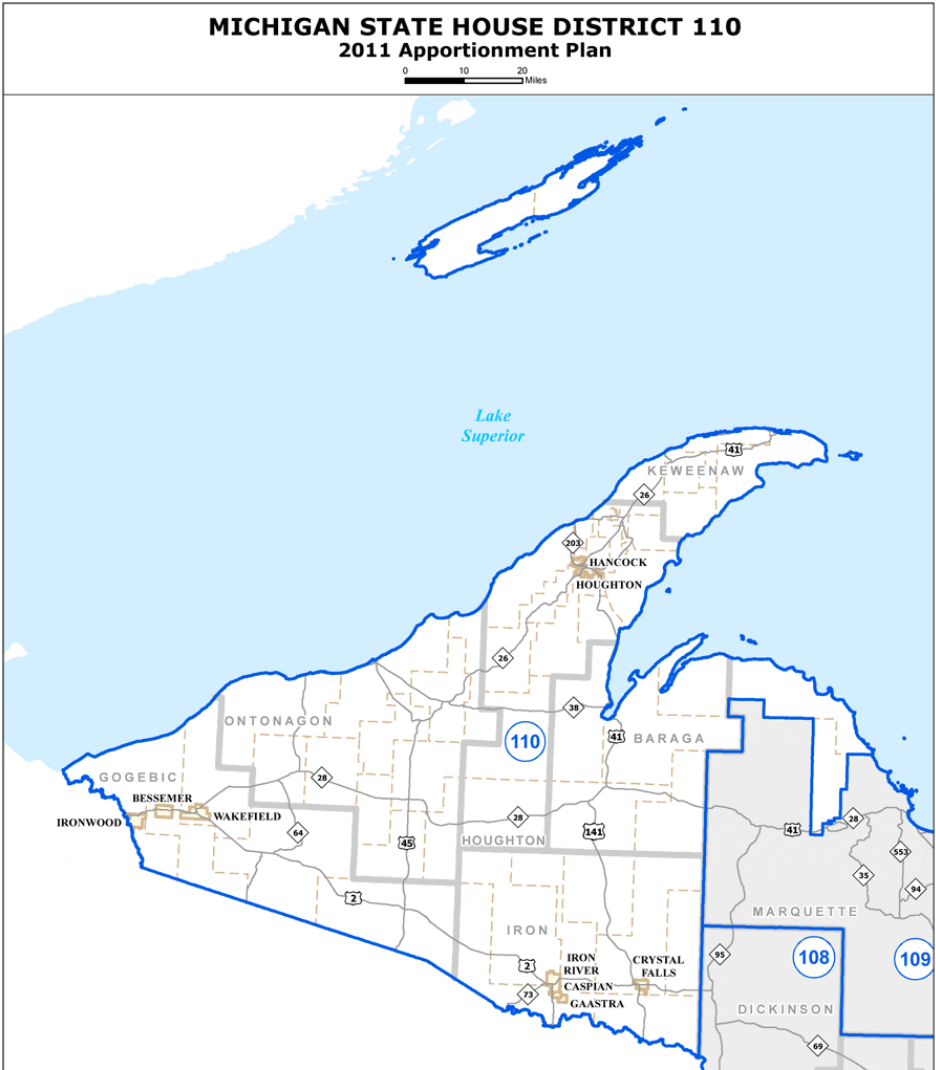
- Republican
- Owned and operated the Dunes Motel in Grand Marais, MI and J.K. Hubbard Inc.
- Appointed and elected to the Burt Twp Supervisor position
- Burt Twp Fire Chief for 10 years

John Kivela



- Democrat
- Mayor of Marquette since 2008
- During his tenure as Mayor, Marquette has paid down debt, maintained a general fund surplus, hired employees and borrowed less than other similar communities

House District 110 Map








**MICHIGAN STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 110
2011 Apportionment Plan**

0 10 20 Miles


 Produced by:
 Center for Shared Solutions and Technology Partnerships
 Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget
 12/20/11

Legend

 House District	 County	 Freeway
 City	 Township	 Highway



Source: Base Map - Michigan Geographic Framework v1fa
Legislative District Boundaries - 2011 Apportionment Plan (as enacted by PA 129 of 2011)

110th HD

Matt Huiki



- Republican
- Currently serves as State Representative
- Ran for County Commissioner in 2006 and 2008 and was defeated by the long standing incumbent

Scott Dianda

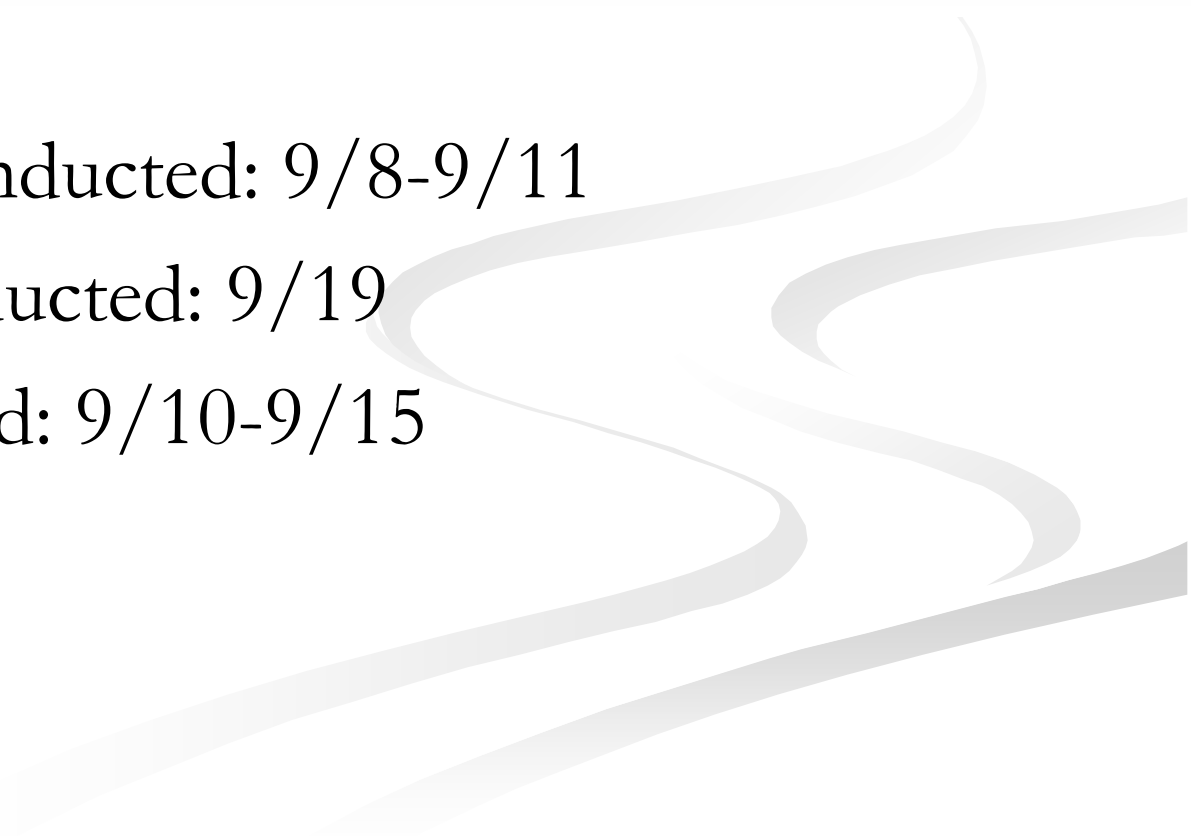


- Democrat
- Served as President of the Calumet Village Council
- Elected President of his statewide union, Michigan Department of Transportation, in 2008

BALLOT PROPOSALS

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Ballot Proposals

- There are six ballot proposals facing Michigan voters in November.
 - EPIC-MRA Conducted: 9/8-9/11
 - Glengariff Conducted: 9/19
 - MRG Conducted: 9/10-9/15
- 
- A decorative graphic consisting of several thick, light gray, wavy lines that flow from the right side of the slide towards the left, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Proposal 3

■ Summary

Proposal Three will ask voters to amend the State Constitution. It will require electric utilities to provide at least 25% of their annual retail sales of electricity from renewable energy sources, which are wind, solar, biomass, and hydropower, by 2025. Limit to not more than 1% per year electric utility rate increases charged to consumers only to achieve compliance with the renewable energy standard. Allow annual extensions of the deadline to meet the 25% standard in order to prevent rate increases over the 1% limit. Require the legislature to enact additional laws to encourage the use of Michigan made equipment and employment of Michigan residents.

8. There is a proposal to amend the Michigan Constitution to create a “Michigan Clean Renewable Electric Energy Standard”. The proposed amendment would require utilities to obtain at least 25% of electricity from clean, renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, biomass or hydro power by the year 2025. The amendment would promote the creation of clean energy jobs, and it would limit rate increases associated with the renewable energy to 1% annually. Would you vote for or against the amendment? If you would definitely vote yes press 1, probably vote yes press 2, probably vote no press 3, definitely vote no press 4,

Or, if you're not sure, press 5.

Definitely Yes	33%	
Probably Yes	19	52% +19%
Probably No	16	
Definitely No	17	33%
Not sure yet	14	

9.

Now, I'm going to read you four major reasons some people oppose the Michigan Clean Electrical Energy Standard amendment.

Over 1000 wind turbines the size of our state Capitol would be placed in and around the Great Lakes changing the views and characteristics of the Great Lakes

The proposal could result in significant subsidies being paid to risky startup companies like "Solyndra", a California company that went bankrupt after receiving five hundred million taxpayer dollars in federal grants.

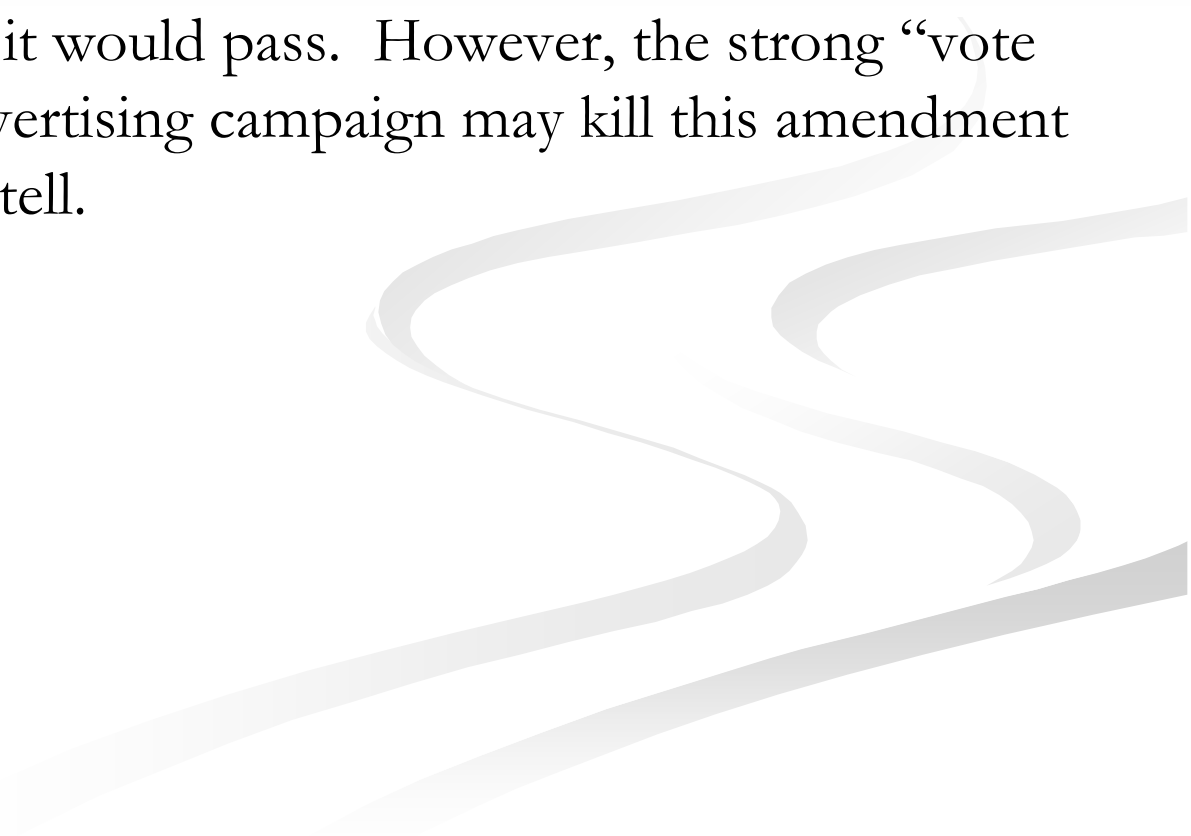
The proposal could result in significant financial harm to Michigan's hometown utilities and jeopardize future reliability of electric service in our state, and

The proposal would lock into the Michigan's Constitutional at least a 1% annual rate increase for Michigan's rate payers.

Knowing this information, would you vote for or against the amendment? If you would definitely vote yes press 1, probably vote yes press 2, probably vote no press 3, definitely vote no press 4, Or, if you're not sure, press 5.

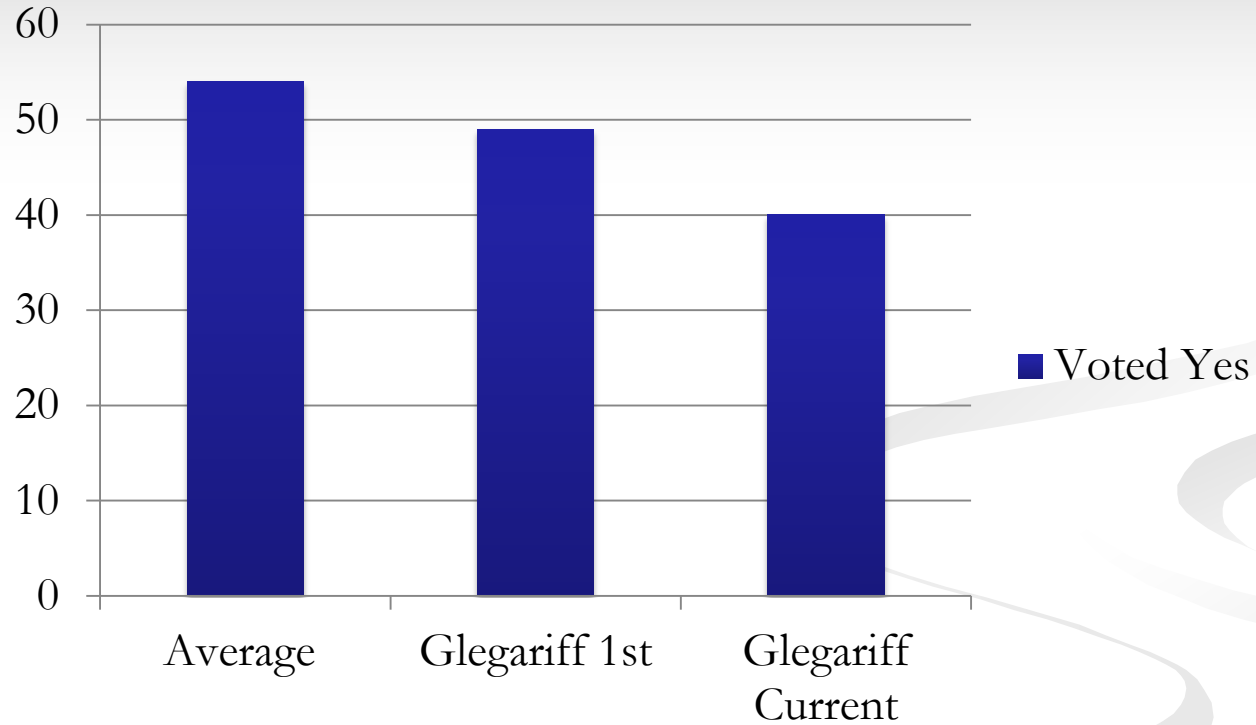
Definitely Yes	18%	
Probably Yes	17	35% - 7%
Probably No	18	
Definitely No	24	42%
Not sure yet	23	

Proposal 3 Conclusions

- This is another bill opposed by the business community. It provides for a huge increase in renewable energy. Opponents say it is too broad and unnecessary. At the time of the most recent polling in September, it would pass. However, the strong “vote no on everything” advertising campaign may kill this amendment too. It is too early to tell.
- 

Proposal 3 Poll Data

Voted Yes



Proposal 1

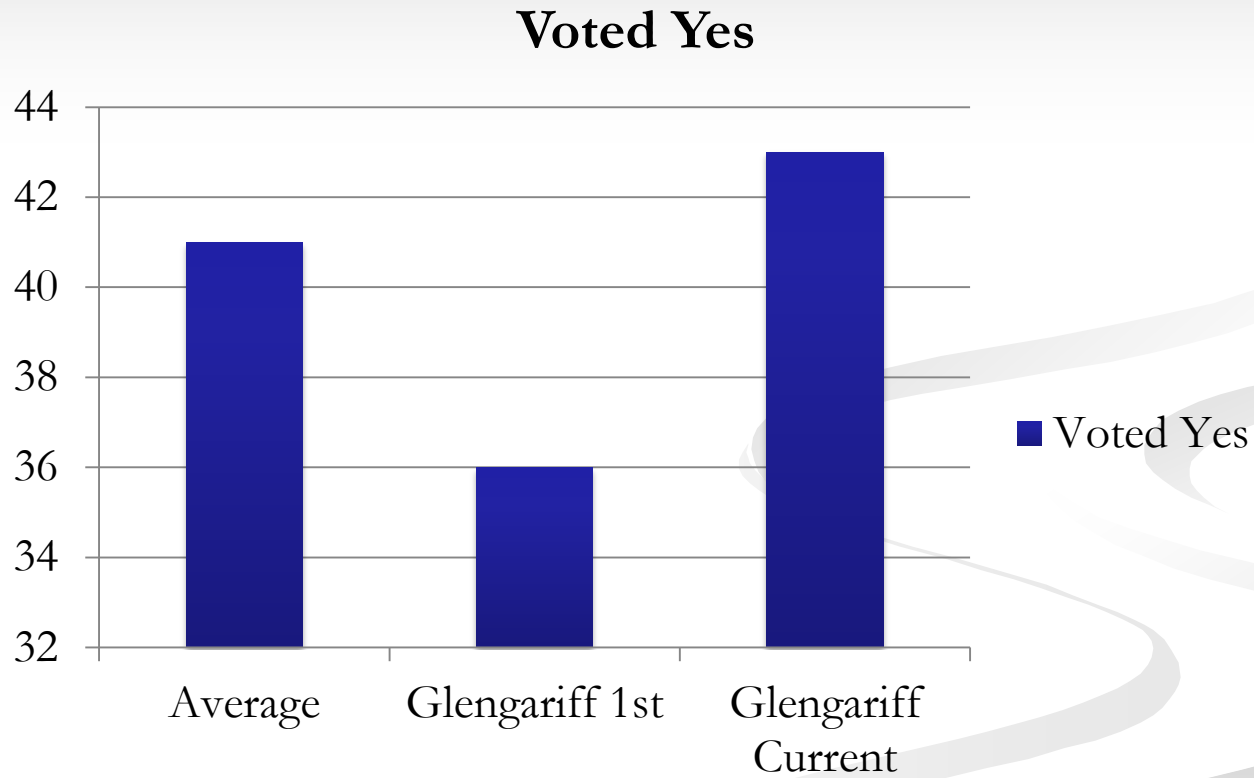
■ Summary

Proposal One will ask voters to amend the State Constitution regarding the Public Act 4 of 2011, the emergency manager law. Public Act 4 would establish criteria to assess the financial condition of local government units, including school districts. It would authorize the governor to appoint the emergency manager, called an EM, upon the state finding of a financial emergency, and allow the emergency manager to act in place of local government officials. It would require the emergency manager to develop financial and operating plans, which may include modification or termination of contracts, reorganization of government and determination of expenditures, services and use of assets until the emergency is resolved. As an alternative, it would authorize a state-appointed review team to enter into a local government-approved consent agreement.

Proposal 1 Conclusions

- This proposal would actually allow the emergency manager act that was passed earlier in this year to stay in effect. Because so many undecided voters tend to vote “No”, they worded it so that the emergency manager act would have to get a majority to vote “Yes”, which is more difficult to get than a “No” vote. The governor supports this and labor unions oppose it.
- If a proposal is under 50% it will fail because undecided voters do vote no. It looks at this time as though this will fail. If it does, the legislature will just pass a slightly different act that does exactly what Public Act 4 (Emergency Manager Act) does now.

Proposal 1 Poll Data

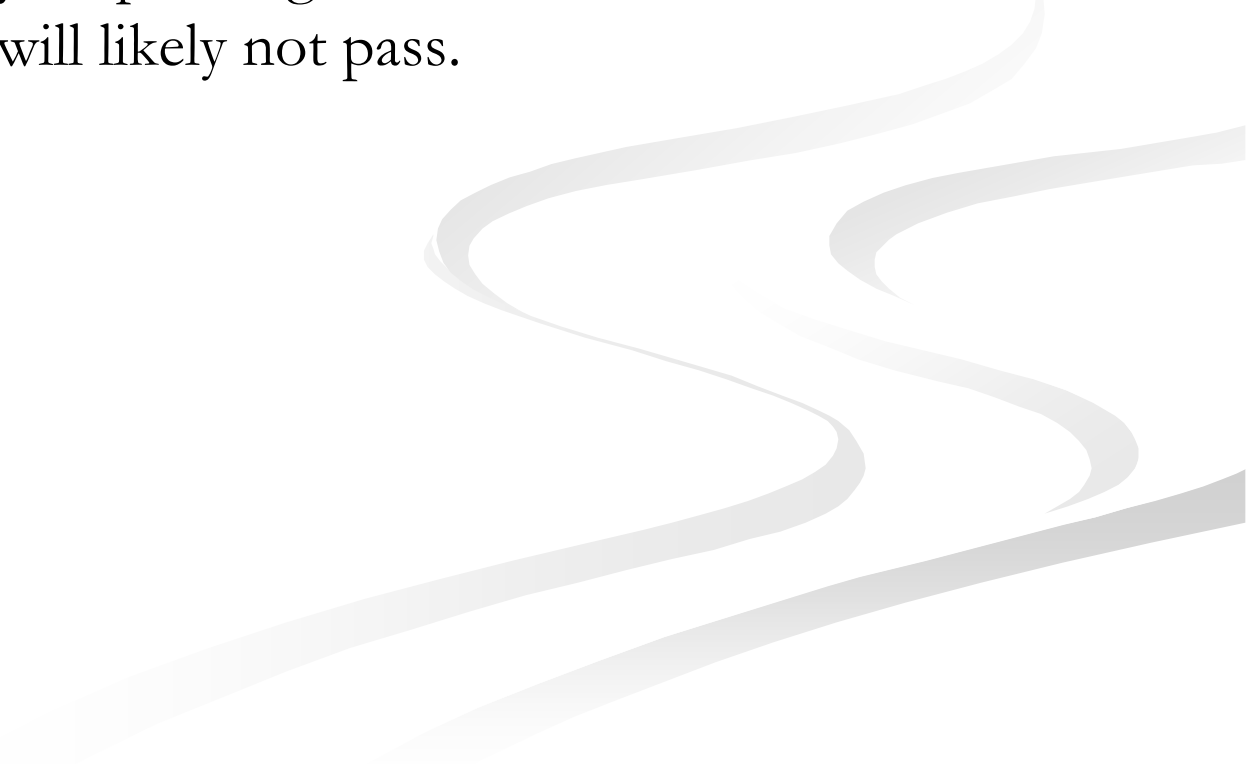


Proposal 2

■ Summary

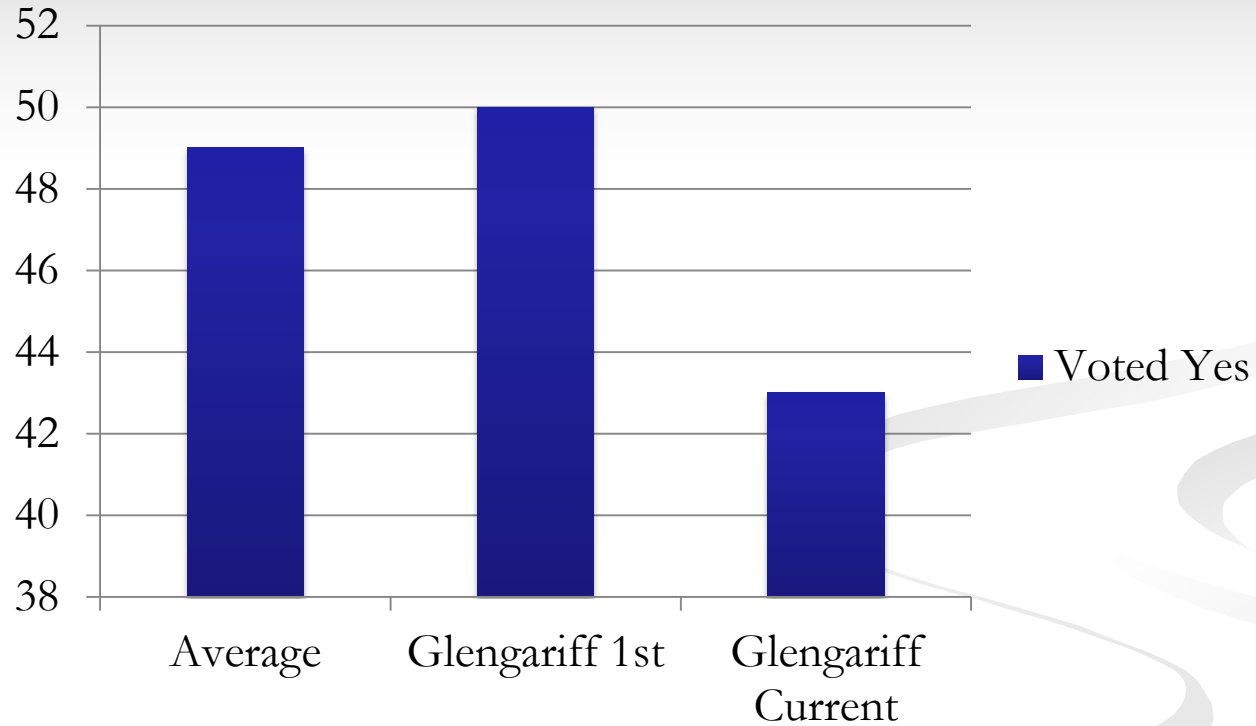
Proposal Two will ask voters to amend the State Constitution regarding collective bargaining. This proposal would grant public and private employees the constitutional right to organize and bargain collectively through labor unions. It would invalidate existing or future state or local laws that limit the ability to join unions and bargain collectively, and to negotiate and enforce collective bargaining agreements, including employees' financial support of their labor unions. It would allow for laws to be enacted prohibiting public employee strikes. It would override state laws regulating hours and conditions of employment if those laws conflict with collective bargaining agreements.

Proposal 2 Conclusions

- This proposal would enshrine in the constitution a proposal that would give union broad powers and in the opinion of the business community kill thousands of jobs in Michigan. The business community is spending \$30 million to defeat this bill. It is close now, but it will likely not pass.
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Proposal 2 Poll Data

Voted Yes



Proposal 4

■ Summary

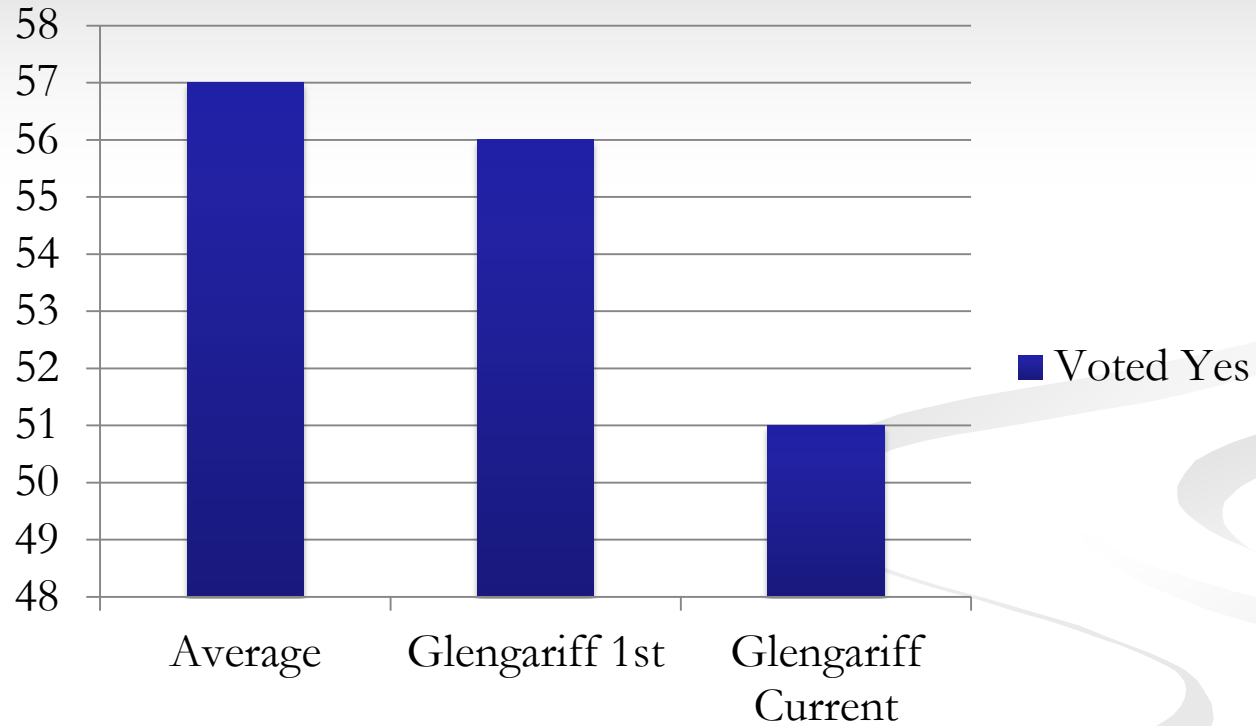
Proposal Four will ask voters to amend the State Constitution to establish the Michigan Quality Home Care Counsel and provide collective bargaining for in-home care workers. This proposal would allow in-home care workers to bargain collectively for wages and working conditions. It would also require training for in-home care workers and create a registry of workers who pass background checks, and provide financial services to patients to manage the cost of in-home care.

Proposal 4 Conclusions

- This is another proposal that pits unions against business. This would make people who provide home care to senior citizens and others join a union. It is strongly opposed by business but was leading at the time of the last poll.

Proposal 4 Poll Data

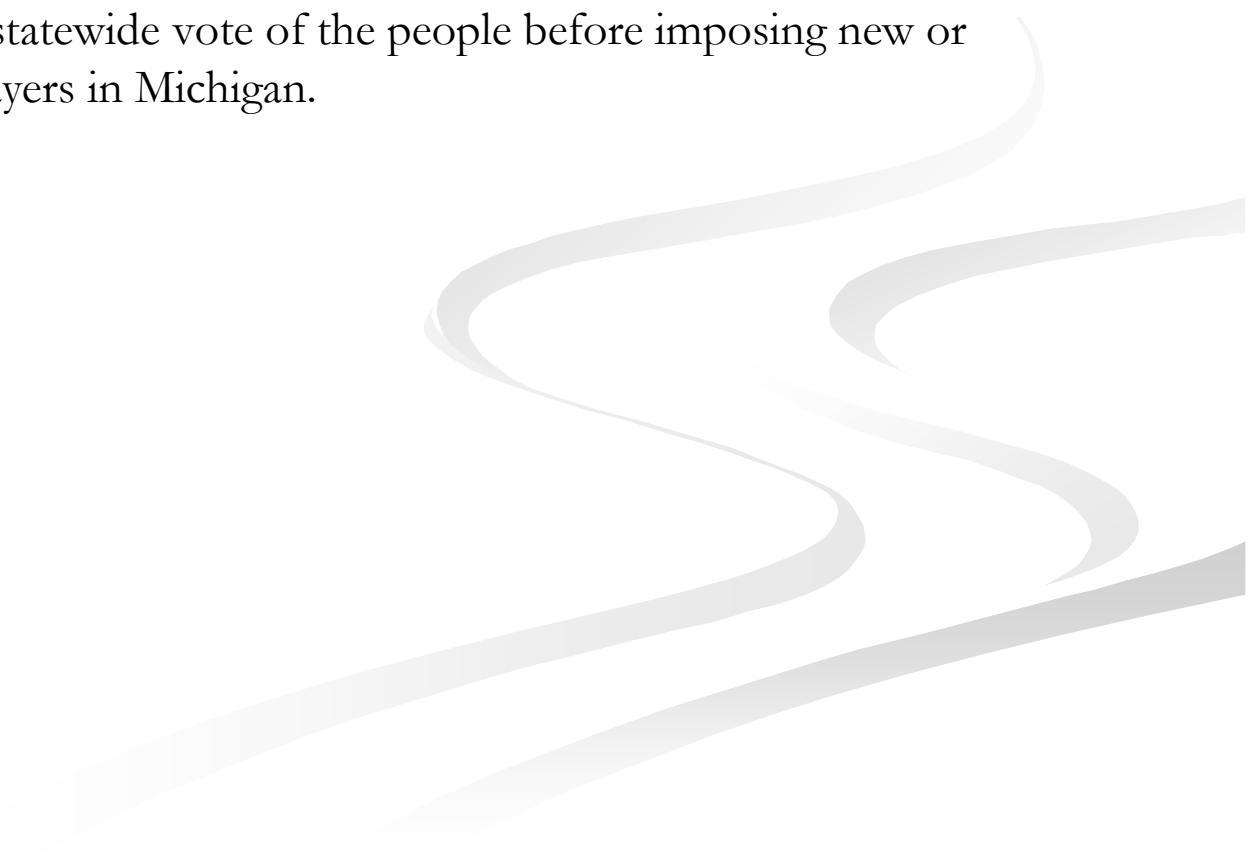
Voted Yes



Proposal 5

■ Summary

Proposal Five will ask voters to amend the State Constitution to limit new taxes by state government. The proposal would require two-thirds majority vote of the State House and State Senate, or a statewide vote of the people before imposing new or additional state taxes on taxpayers in Michigan.

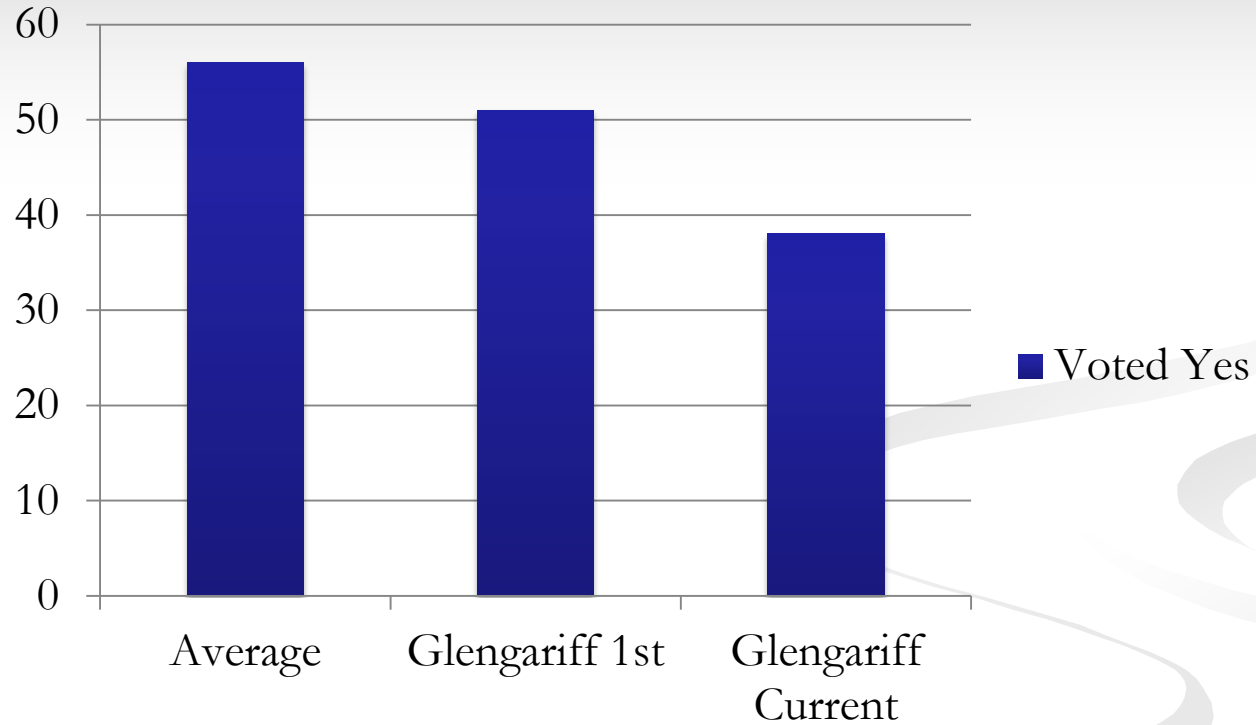
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Proposal 5 Conclusions

- This proposal is favored by conservative Republicans such as the Tea Party supporters. It would require a two-thirds majority to change any taxes. It is opposed by a broad coalition including business organizations such as the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. It was also leading at the time of the last polls.

Proposal 5 Poll Data

Voted Yes



Proposal 6

■ Summary

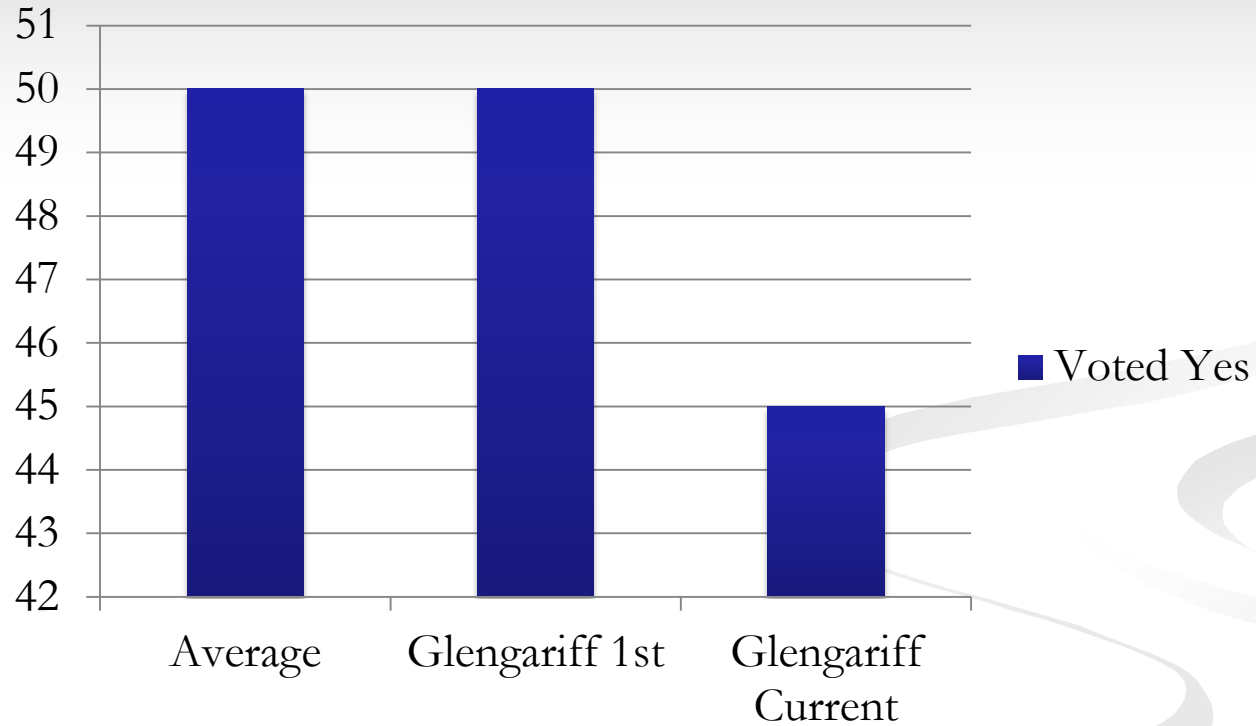
Proposal Six will ask voters to amend the State Constitution regarding construction of international bridges and tunnels. This proposal would require majority voter approval statewide and in each municipality where “new international bridges or tunnels for motor vehicles” are to be located, before state funds or resources are used for acquiring land, designing, constructing, financing or promoting the new international bridges and tunnels. It will affect any bridge or tunnel not open to the public and serving traffic as of January 1, 2012.

Proposal 6 Conclusions

- The bridge proposal would require a statewide vote to build another bridge. Since only Matty Maroun, the owner of the Ambassador Bridge, would have enough money to run a campaign on the bridge, this would kill any new bridges except one Maroun wants. This is on the bubble and will likely lose despite all the money he is spending. However, it is too soon to tell.
- There is a strong campaign being run against Proposal 2, it is urging a “No” vote against all the proposals. We will have to see if that works. A number of these proposals would be very detrimental to Michigan’s job climate.

Proposal 6 Poll Data

Voted Yes



Thank you!

Steve Mitchell

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