



VOTER GUIDE - League of Women Voters of Michigan Education Fund U. S. Congress – Michigan District 1

Primary Election: August 5, 2014

You may **VOTE in ONLY ONE PARTY'S PRIMARY** – either Republican or Democratic – **for ALL partisan offices** on ballot.

Candidates are ordered below within each office by party with Republicans preceding Democrats.

There are 2 Republicans and 1 Democratic candidate on the ballot.

Duties: Representatives share the responsibility with Senators for enactment of the nation's laws as provided in the U.S. Constitution. Laws that require payment of taxes are initiated in the House of Representatives.

Qualifications: A Representative must be at least 25 years of age and a U.S. Citizen for at least 7 years. There are 435 Representatives based on Congressional districts reapportioned after each census. Michigan has 14 districts as of 2012.

Term: 2 years VOTE for ONE (1).

Alan Arcand, Republican



Campaign Website:

<http://arcandforcongress.com>

Occupation / Current Position:

Auto Repair / Small Business Owner

Education: Associates Degree Instructor of Technology - Associates degree Aviation Maintenance - Bachelors Degree Professional Aeronautics - Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Qualifications / Experience: Military Service, 8 years Precinct Delegate, State Delegate and National Delegate 2012.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three national legislative priorities? Why did you select them?*

A: 1. Immigration. A country without borders is no country at all. I believe un-secure borders pose a national security risk. I also believe we need to enforce the laws we already have. 2. Protecting 2nd Amendment rights. Throughout history, any government that has restricted and removed the right to keep and bear arms from it's citizens has turned

against it's people. 3. Shrinking the size, scope, and power of government, finding ways to shrink government by removing regulations and working to implement a negative baseline budgeting program.

2. ECONOMY: *What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy, reduce unemployment, and address the widening income gap?*

A: The federal government should allow for drilling and processing of our own oil and bringing it to the market, this would reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The federal government over-regulates our businesses making more and more choose to move outside of the United States. Removing regulations would encourage those businesses to come back to the US which would increase jobs and boost our economy.

3. ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT: *What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting our water, air and land?*

A: I believe we need to drill our own oil and stop giving oil companies subsidies and tax breaks. We have created ways to drill our own oil clean and safely, but the federal government fixes the market by regulating and subsidizing, there for, forcing us to buy foreign oil. If the government got out of the way and stopped fixing the market we could have cheap gas at the pump while creating jobs across the country.

4. MONEY IN ELECTIONS: *Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures? Why or why not?*

A: Although it sound good, I fear that donors could be singled out for supporting candidates that align with their beliefs. A good example is the IRS scandal that was targeting conservative donors.

5. IMMIGRATION: *What specific changes, if any, would you propose to current immigration policy? Please explain.*

A: Close the borders and enforce the existing laws.

6. HEALTH CARE: *What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? Please explain.*

A: Healthcare is not an delegated power of the federal government and it should be left to the states to decide if they want to provide healthcare.

Dan Benishek, Republican

Campaign Website:

www.danbenishek.com

DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION

Jerry Cannon, Democrat



Campaign Website:

<http://www.jerrycannon.com>

Occupation / Current Position:

Kalkaska Hospital Board Member,
Garfield Township Police Chief, Garfield
Township Parks Chair

Education: BA in Criminal Justice from the University of Detroit Mercy, 1976 Master's Degree in Public Administration, 1988 Master's degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College 2002

Qualifications / Experience: Jerry served as a Marine in Vietnam and became a police officer upon returning. In 1977 he joined the Michigan Army National Guard, and the Kalkaska Sheriff's Department. He became Sheriff in 1987 and was re-elected four times. Cannon was promoted to Brigadier General in 2003 and promoted to Major General in 2006, and was deployed to Iraq twice. He retired from the National Guard in 2012.

Questions:

1. PRIORITIES: *What are your top three national legislative priorities? Why did you select them?*

A: During my time in the military, I stressed action, results, and accountability. I'll bring the same rigor to Congress. As a congressman, I will be focused like a laser on three things: doing what's good for working families, seniors, and veterans of this District, like developing a more diverse economy with more high quality jobs, protecting the Great lakes, and improving public education.

2. ECONOMY: *What should the federal government do to strengthen the national economy, reduce unemployment, and address the widening income gap?*

A: We need to strengthen support for small businesses. That means making it easier to start a small business by doubling the tax credit for startups. Education is the great equalizer! We have to take steps to make sure that our children have access to an education that gives them the skills it will take to succeed. That means making investments from early childhood education all the way to specialized skills training later in life. Income inequality is becoming a serious problem. Some steps that can be taken would be to raise the minimum wage, extending unemployment, ensuring workers who deserve it get overtime.

3. ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT: *What steps would you propose to secure America's energy needs while protecting our water, air and land?*

A: I will work in Congress to invest heavily into renewable energy such as wind, solar and biomass. Specifically to my district, I would support more wind turbines in Northern Michigan. We must do more to tackle carbon pollution and ensure a better tomorrow, but not at the expense of Michigan families. That's why I'll push to invest more in cleaner options, including natural gas. Congress irresponsibly let the Wind Energy Production Tax Credit, expire, and I support renewing it.

4. MONEY IN ELECTIONS: *Do you support the Disclose Act, which would require disclosure by outside groups of large campaign contributions and expenditures? Why or why not?*

A: We must overturn the Supreme Court's decisions in Citizens United and McCutcheon. I would support a constitutional amendment to give Congress the power to limit spending in federal elections. The process to amend the constitution will not be easy. In the meantime I support efforts like the DISCLOSE ACT that

give the public more information about outside spending and require clearer disclosures of who is actually behind political ads. Elections should be decided on the basis of who will represent the best interests of the people and not on who has the wealthiest donors.

5. IMMIGRATION: *What specific changes, if any, would you propose to current immigration policy? Please explain.*

A: I believe any immigration reform policy should be bipartisan that strengthens enforcement and security. It should also require paying back taxes, learning English and waiting their turn in line. I would also support a policy that protects workers and creates a more stable agricultural workforce.

6. HEALTH CARE: *What changes, if any, should be made to federal health care policies or programs? Please explain.*

A: The ACA is an imperfect Law. I'm going to work with both parties to fix the bad parts of the law and to make it work for Northern Michigan, but we should not put the insurance companies back in charge and allow them to deny coverage for people with a pre-existing condition or drop people when they get sick. I will also fight any efforts to cut Medicare benefits or deny access to rural hospitals. Because one lives in, or visits, a rural area does not mean they should accept a lower standard of care.