

Candidate Evaluation Committee

2018 PLANNING GUIDE



Candidate Evaluation Committee Planning Guide

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General Information

1. How did I get appointed to the county Farm Bureau Candidate Evaluation Committee (CEC)?

All members of the CEC were appointed by their County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

2. What is the purpose of the Candidate Evaluation Committees?

CEC's will evaluate state and national candidates who, if elected or reelected to public office, will represent all or a portion of their county. Following their evaluation, the Committees will decide which candidate, for a specific public office, to recommend for an AgriPac endorsement.

3. What information will AgriPac provide to help Candidate Evaluation Committees with their evaluations?

AgriPac will send a questionnaire to all candidates from Michigan who have filed to run for Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, Michigan State Senate, Michigan House of Representatives, MSU Board of Trustees and State Supreme Court. AgriPac will provide vote records and staff comments of incumbents seeking reelection or election to another public office.

4. How will the Candidate Evaluation Committees receive this information?

- The deadline for candidates to mail their questionnaires to Michigan Farm Bureau offices is May 4. AgriPac will e-mail CEC chairs, county presidents, and County Administrative Managers (CAM's) candidate questionnaires once they are received.
- Updated vote records will be mailed to CEC chairs, county presidents and CAMs. Additionally, current and past vote records are available on the MFB website.
- Confidential staff comments will be mailed to CEC Chairs on April 25.

5. What are the deadlines for Candidate Evaluation Committees to complete the evaluations and send their endorsement recommendations to AgriPac?

The absolute deadline for CEC's to send their candidate endorsement recommendations to AgriPac is May 25. Recommendations can be mailed, emailed, or faxed.

6. How will Candidate Evaluation Committees know who the candidates are and which legislative districts are within their county?

Information on how to look up which candidates file for election in each legislative District will be mailed to CEC Chairs and CAMs no later than April 25. Legislative District maps for the U.S. House of Representatives, State House of Representatives and State Senate can be found on Pages 5-7.

7. How will the endorsement recommendations be forwarded to AgriPac?

CEC's will express their endorsement recommendations on the form that is included on pages 2 & 3 of this handbook. Question 6 on the form is very important. Please include reasons on why you're making the recommendation. The recommendation is not an endorsement. Endorsements are made by AgriPac.

8. What will AgriPac do with the Candidate Evaluation Committee recommendations?

The recommendations will be reviewed very carefully by AgriPac; they are an important factor in AgriPac's candidate endorsement decisions. The AgriPac Committee may contact the CEC Chair for additional information and may also interview the candidates before any endorsement is made.

9. When will AgriPac meet to make its candidate endorsement decisions?

AgriPac will meet June 7, at the Farm Bureau Center in Lansing to decide which candidates to endorse for the August 7 Primary Election.

10. Will Candidate Evaluation Committees be informed of the AgriPac endorsements?

Yes. A confidential and complete list of the candidates endorsed by AgriPac will be sent to CEC chairs, County Farm Bureau Presidents, County Farm Bureau Administrative Managers, MFB Board of Directors and Regional Representatives on June 8. The endorsements will not be public at this time. See next question.

11. When will AgriPac endorsements be released to the candidates and general public?

Letters will be sent by AgriPac to the candidates endorsed, along with any contributions to their campaigns, beginning June 14 to inform them of their endorsement for election to the public office they are seeking. On June 15, AgriPac will publicly announce the candidates endorsed to news media.

12. Is AgriPac nonpartisan?

Yes. It is the policy of AgriPac to influence the nomination and election of qualified candidates who have demonstrated basic beliefs and/or actions which are consistent with MFB policy regardless of their political affiliation. AgriPac is nonpartisan. In evaluating candidates it is very important to set partisan politics aside and be completely objective.

13. If a Candidate Evaluation Committee needs answers to specific questions or more information, who should they contact?

Assistance can be obtained by calling you MFB Regional Representative or Matt Kapp, Government Relations Specialist, Michigan Farm Bureau, telephone (517) 679-5338. The members of the AgriPac Committee shown on Page 10 may also be contacted.



COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Candidate Evaluation Committee

RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please sign below and mail or e-mail to Public Policy and Commodity Division,
Michigan Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Michigan 48909, mpalma@michfb.com

FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY MFB NOT LATER THAN FRIDAY DAY, MAY 25.

(NAME OF COUNTY) County Farm Bureau Candidate Evaluation Committee

(NAME) Chairperson

(DATE)

**Please return CEC Recommendation
Forms by May 25 to:**

Public Policy & Commodity Division
Michigan Farm Bureau
P.O. Box 30960, Lansing, Michigan 48909
P: 517-323-6740 | mpalma@michfb.com

1. Name of candidate evaluated _____
(NAME)

2. Office and District candidate is seeking _____
(NAME OF OFFICE)

3. Date Your CEC Met to evaluate and provide recommendation _____
(DATE)

4. The candidate was evaluated by the following method(s):

_____ Written response to questionnaire _____ Other (please specify below)

5. Please enter the letter rating your Candidate Evaluation Committee gives to this candidate for each item (a through g) below. **(NOTE: A=Excellent, B=Good, C=Average, D=Poor, F=Fails)**

a. Does the candidate demonstrate a basic understanding of agriculture? Rating: _____

b. If the candidate is an incumbent public official, does he/she have a satisfactory voting record on Farm Bureau issues? Rating: _____

c. Does the candidate recognize the importance of agriculture to the economy? Rating: _____

d. Has the candidate included issues that are important to agriculture in his/her campaign? Rating: _____

e. Are the candidate's positions on agricultural and other issues consistent with Farm Bureau policies? Rating: _____

f. Is the candidate serious and dedicated to the campaign? Rating: _____

g. Has the candidate involved farmers in his/her campaign? Rating: _____

6. Use the space below to list specific reasons why your committee either recommends or does not recommend this candidate for endorsement. It is very important for the AgriPac Committee to have as much information as possible about the candidate.

7. Would you recommend endorsement of candidate?

_____ Yes _____ No _____ Neutral _____ Stay out of Race at this time

8. Does this candidate face opposition strong enough to warrant a financial contribution by AgriPac to his/her campaign? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Not Sure

9. Has this candidate evaluation been reviewed by your county Farm Bureau President?

_____ Yes _____ No

10. Does the County Farm Bureau approve "Friends of Agriculture" to send out campaign literature to your regular & associate members? All literature would be approved by MFB & sent out from the MFB print shop to protect the integrity of our membership list, and all mailings would be at the cost of the candidate, not the CFB.

_____ Yes, to regular members only _____ Yes, to both regular and associate members

_____ No, our county does not approve candidate mailings

County President Signature

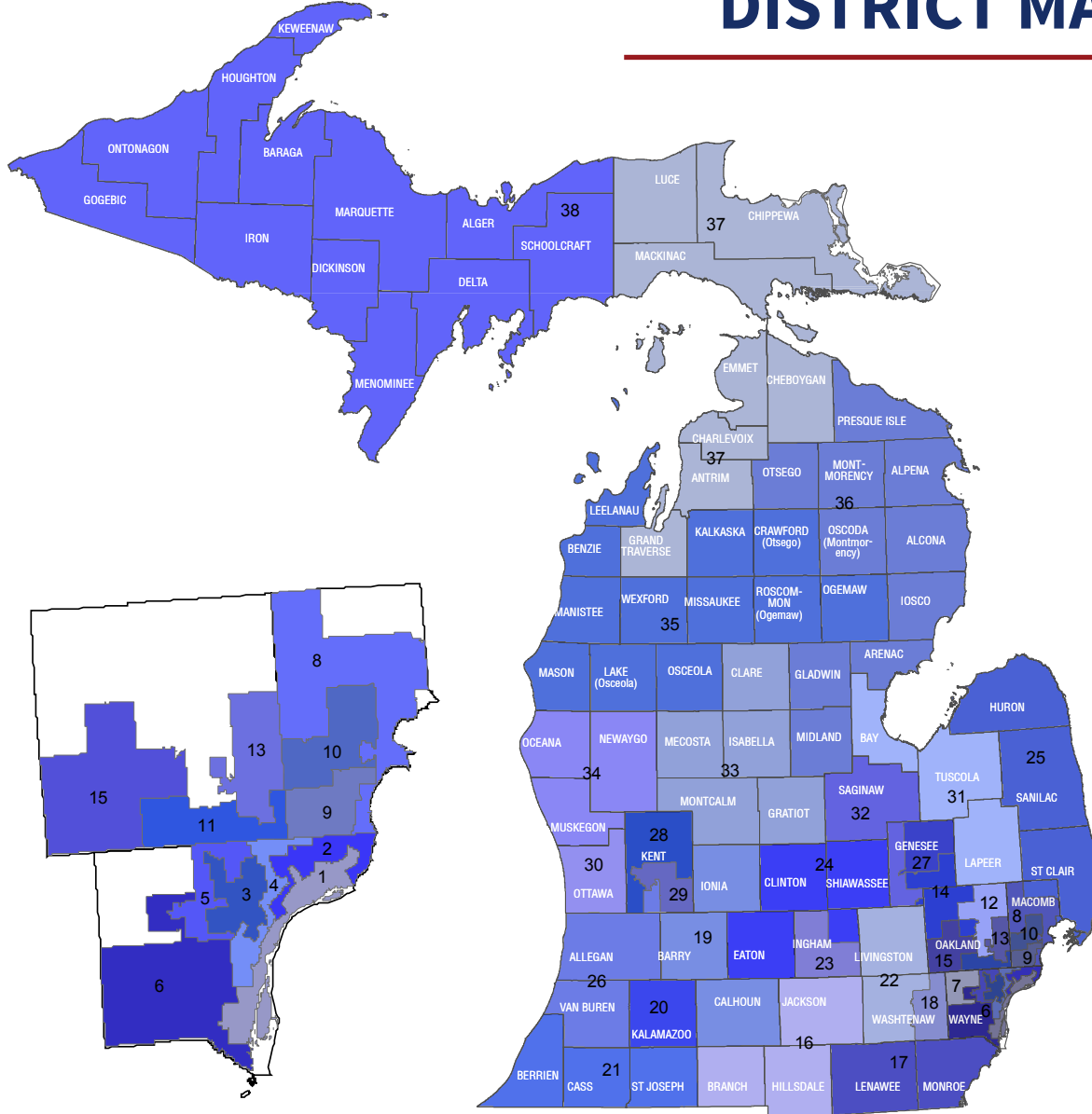
CEC Chair Signature

(NOTE: Completion of this form is a recommendation by your Candidate Evaluation Committee to the MFB AgriPac Committee. This recommendation does not constitute an endorsement of the candidate. Endorsements are made by AgriPac.)

2018 *Endorsement / Elections Timetable*

JANUARY 25	AgriPac Committee meeting
MARCH-APRIL	Candidate Evaluation Committees (CEC) workshops
MARCH	AgriPac send questionnaire to all incumbents
MARCH	AgriPac begins sending questionnaires to candidates as they file with Secretary of State
APRIL 15	Michigan Democratic Party Early Endorsement Convention
APRIL 24	Deadline for candidates to file for election
APRIL 25	AgriPac sends a list of candidates who have filed for the primary and voting records of incumbent candidates to CFB's
APRIL 25	County Farm Bureaus (CFB) can start scheduling candidate interviews
MAY 4	Deadline for candidates to return questionnaires
MAY 5-MAY 25	CEC's meet to evaluate candidates and make endorsement recommendation decisions
MAY 25	Deadline for CEC's to send endorsement recommendations to AgriPac THIS DATE MUST BE MET!
JUNE 7	AgriPac meets to endorse candidates for Primary Election
JUNE 8	List of candidates endorsed for Primary mailed to CFB presidents and CEC's for their information
JUNE 14	Letters sent to endorsed candidates
JUNE 15	List of candidate endorsements released to news media
AUGUST 7	Primary Election
AUGUST TBD	Questionnaires for Attorney General, Secretary of State, MSU Board of Trustees and Supreme Court sent to County Farm Bureau's
AUGUST 15	State wide interview forum for Governor and U.S. Senate candidates
AUGUST 8-27	CEC's reevaluate state house and state senate districts where AgriPac endorsed candidates lost or where no endorsement was made
AUGUST 27	Deadline for CFB's to send general election recommendations
AUGUST 25	Michigan Republican Party State Convention
AUGUST 25 & 26	Michigan Democratic Party Convention
SEPTEMBER 12	AgriPac meets to make endorsements for General Election
SEPTEMBER 13	List of candidates endorsed for general mailed to CFB presidents and CEC's for their information
SEPTEMBER 17	Letters sent to endorsed candidates
SEPTEMBER 18	List of candidate endorsements released to news media
NOVEMBER 6	General Election

Michigan Senate DISTRICT MAP



DISTRICT SENATOR

1.....	COLEMAN YOUNG II
2.....	BERT JOHNSON
3.....	MORRIS HOOD III
4.....	IAN CONYERS
5.....	DAVID KNEZEK
6.....	HOON-YUNG HOPGOOD
7.....	PATRICK COLBECK
8.....	JACK BRANDENBURG
9.....	STEVE BIEDA
10.....	TORY ROCCA
11.....	VINCENT GREGORY
12.....	JIM MARLEAU
13.....	MARTY KNOLLENBERG
14.....	DAVE ROBERTSON

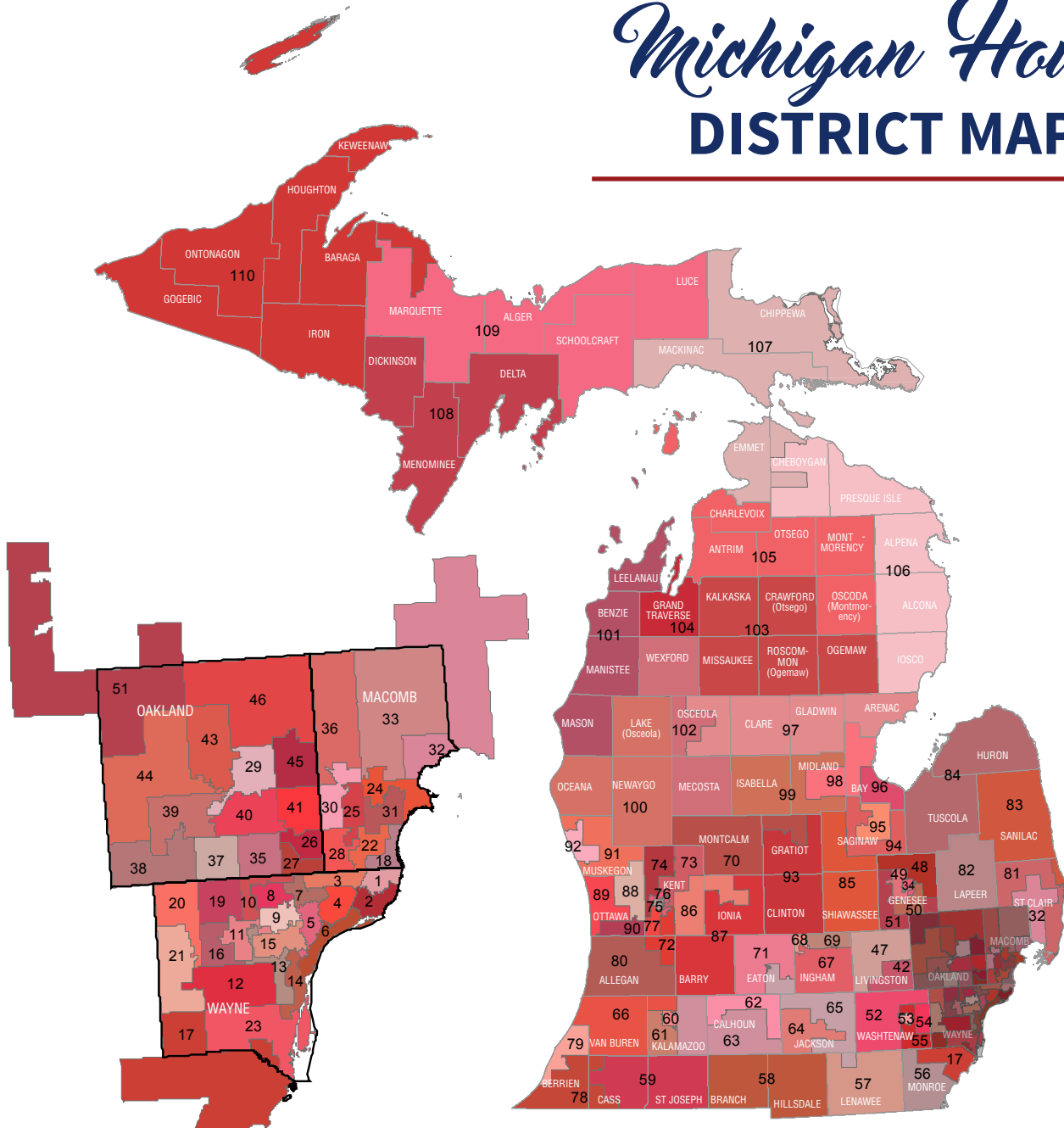
DISTRICT SENATOR

15.....	MIKE KOWALL
16.....	MIKE SHIRKEY
17.....	DALE ZORN
18.....	REBEKAH WARREN
19.....	MIKE NOFS
20.....	MARGARET O'BRIEN
21.....	JOHN PROOS
22.....	JOE HUNE
23.....	CURTIS HERTEL JR.
24.....	RICK JONES
25.....	PHIL PAVLOV
26.....	TONYA SCHUITMAKER
27.....	JIM ANANICH
28.....	PETER MACGREGOR

DISTRICT SENATOR

29.....	DAVE HILDENBRAND
30.....	ARLAN MEEKHOF
31.....	MIKE GREEN
32.....	KEN HORN
33.....	JUDY EMMONS
34.....	GEOFF HANSEN
35.....	DARWIN BOOHER
36.....	JIM STAMAS
37.....	WAYNE SCHMIDT
38.....	TOM CASPERSON

Michigan House DISTRICT MAP



DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

1.....	TENISHA YANCEY
2.....	BETTIE COOK-SCOTT
3.....	WENDELL BYRD
4.....	ROSE MARY ROBINSON
5.....	FRED DURHAL III
6.....	STEPHANIE CHANG
7.....	LATANYA GARRETT
8.....	SHERRY GAY-DAGNOGO
9.....	SYLVIA SANTANA
10.....	LESLIE LOVE
11.....	JEWELL JONES
12.....	ERIKA GEISS
13.....	FRANK LIBERATI
14.....	CARA CLEMENTE
15.....	ABDULLAH HAMMOUD
16.....	ROBERT KOSOWSKI
17.....	JOSEPH BELLINO
18.....	KEVIN HERTEL
19.....	LAURA COX
20.....	JEFF NOBLE
21.....	KRISTY PAGAN
22.....	JOHN CHIRKUN
23.....	DARRIN CAMILLERI
24.....	STEVE MARINO
25.....	HENRY YANEZ
26.....	JIM ELLISON
27.....	ROBERT WITTENBERG
28.....	PATRICK GREEN
29.....	TIM GREIMEL

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

30.....	DIANA FARRINGTON
31.....	WILLIAM SOWERBY
32.....	PAMELA HORNBERGER
33.....	JEFF YAROCH
34.....	SHELDON NEELEY
35.....	JEREMY MOSS
36.....	PETER LUCIDO
37.....	CHRISTINE GREIG
38.....	KATHY CRAWFORD
39.....	KLINT KESTO
40.....	MICHAEL MCCREARY
41.....	MARTIN HOWRYLAK
42.....	LANA THEIS
43.....	JIM TEDDER
44.....	JIM RUNESTAD
45.....	MICHAEL WEBBER
46.....	JOHN REILLY
47.....	HANK VAUPEL
48.....	PAM FARIS
49.....	PHIL PHELPS
50.....	TIM SNELLER
51.....	JOE GRAVES
52.....	DONNA LASINSKI
53.....	YUSEF RABHI
54.....	RONNIE PETERSON
55.....	ADAM ZEMKE
56.....	JASON SHEPPARD
57.....	BRONNA KAHLE
58.....	ERIC LEUTHEUSER

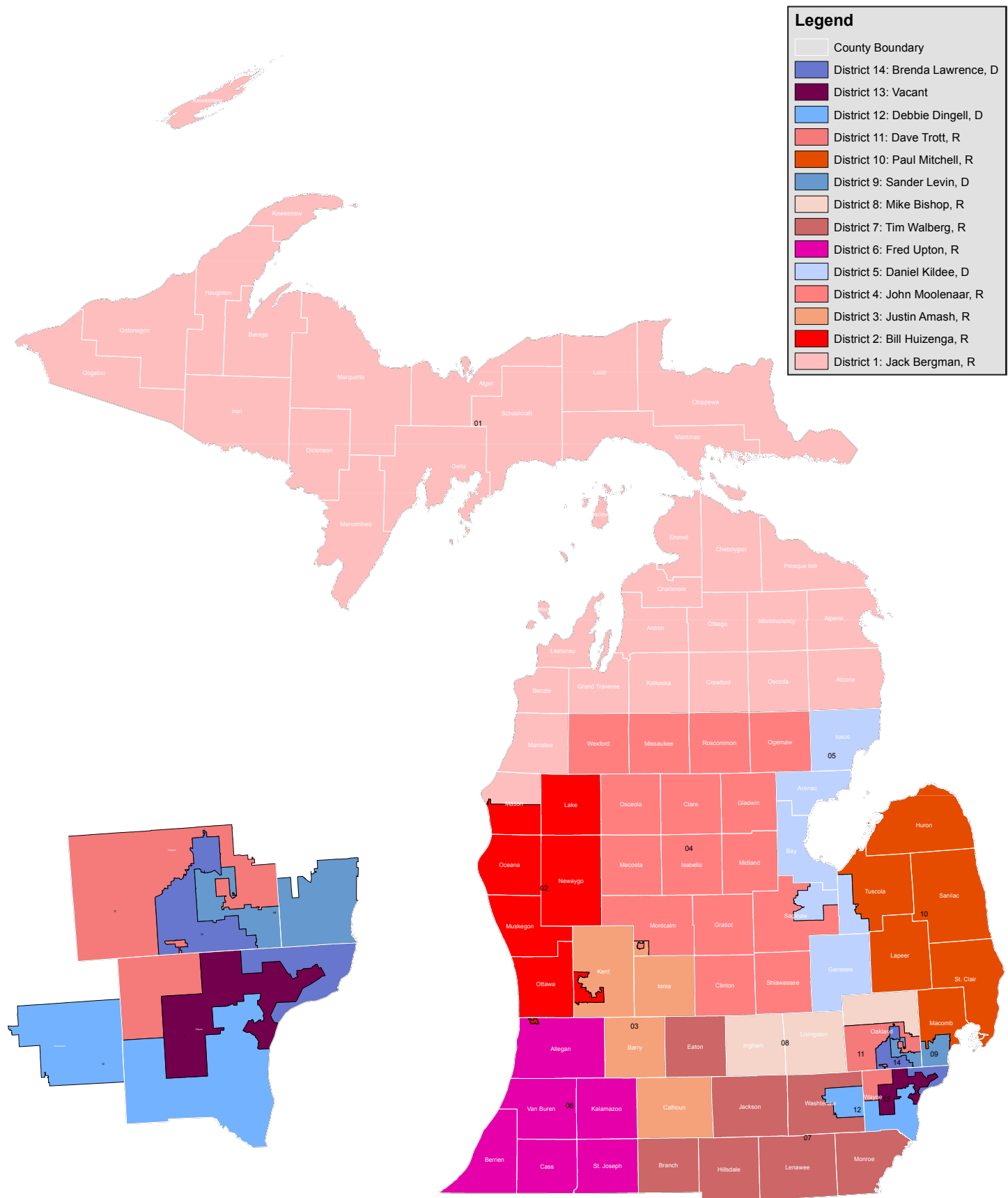
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

59.....	AARON MILLER
60.....	JON HOADLEY
61.....	BRANDT IDEN
62.....	JOHN BIZON
63.....	DAVID MATUREN
64.....	JULIE ALEXANDER
65.....	BRETT ROBERTS
66.....	BETH GRIFFIN
67.....	TOM COCHRAN
68.....	VACANT
69.....	SAM SINGH
70.....	JAMES LOWER
71.....	TOM BARRETT
72.....	STEVEN JOHNSON
73.....	CHRIS AFENDOUSIS
74.....	ROBERT VERHEULEN
75.....	DAVID LAGRANDE
76.....	WINNIE BRINKS
77.....	TOMMY BRANN
78.....	DAVE PAGEL
79.....	KIM LASATA
80.....	MARY WHITEFORD
81.....	DAN LAUWERS
82.....	GARY HOWELL
83.....	SHANE HERNANDEZ
84.....	ED CANFIELD
85.....	BEN FREDERICK
86.....	THOMAS ALBERT
87.....	JULIE CALLEY

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

88.....	ROGER VICTORY
89.....	JIM LILLY
90.....	DANIELA GARCIA
91.....	HOLLY HUGHES
92.....	TERRY SABO
93.....	TOM LEONARD
94.....	TIM KELLY
95.....	VANESSA GUERRA
96.....	BRAIN ELDER
97.....	JASON WENTWORTH
98.....	GARY GLENN
99.....	ROGER HAUCK
100.....	SCOTT VANSINGEL
101.....	CURT VANDERWALL
102.....	MICHELE HOITENGA
103.....	DAIRE RENDON
104.....	LARRY INMAN
105.....	TRISTON COLE
106.....	SUE ALLOR
107.....	LEE CHATFIELD
108.....	BEAU LAFAYE
109.....	SARA CAMBENSY
110.....	SCOTT DIANDA

Michigan Congress – DISTRICT MAP



CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATING *Friends of Agriculture*

The following criteria will be followed by AgriPac in designating “Friends of Agriculture.”

1. Results of input from county Farm Bureau Candidate Evaluation Committees
 2. Recognition of the importance of agriculture to the economy
 3. Demonstrated interest in agricultural issues and possible solutions to such issues
 4. Position on issues that impact agriculture
 5. Integrity and dedication to the campaign
 6. Involvement of agricultural persons in the campaign
 7. Vote records (incumbents)
 8. Staff Comments (incumbents)
-

SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU *Candidate Evaluation Committees*

1. Plan ahead. Set a timetable for candidate evaluations and making endorsement recommendations to AgriPac. Timing is critical due to the tight timetable. See the 2018 Candidate Endorsement Timetable (page 4) for assistance in establishing the plan.
2. Conduct candidate interviews and, contact the candidates early to make interview appointments. When the interviews are held, all the candidates seeking the same office should be invited. Interview each candidate separately. Give each candidate equal time and ask each candidate the same questions.
3. Be nonpartisan in evaluating candidates and making endorsement recommendations.
4. On question 6 on the recommendation form document specific reasons for recommending or not recommending an AgriPac endorsement for each candidate. Reasons for why your CEC is making a certain recommendation is very valuable to the AgriPac Committee.
5. Endorsement recommendations should be submitted to the County Farm Bureau President for review before mailing to AgriPac. The County President is required to sign the recommendation form.
6. Send endorsement recommendations to the AgriPac Committee by the established deadline, May 25.

2018 *Election Decisions*

U.S. SENATE

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (14)

STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES (2)

GOVERNOR

ATTORNEY GENERAL

SECRETARY OF STATE

MICHIGAN STATE SENATE (38)

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (110)

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2)



2017-18 MFB AGRIPAC COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: *Patrick McGuire*

**New Members

DISTRICT 1 - Monte Bordner

68730 County Farm Road | Sturgis, MI 49091
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
269-651-8353 (h); 269-506-5109 (c)
Email: monte@bordnerfarms.com

DISTRICT 2 - Brian Preston

430 S. Ray Quincy Road | Quincy, MI 49082
BRANCH COUNTY
517-376-1350 (c)
Email: prestonbc@dmcibb.net

DISTRICT 3 - ** Grant Reiff

15394 W. Austin Road | Manchester, MI 48158
WASHTENAW COUNTY
574-870-8226 (h/c)
Email: grantreiff@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 4 - ** Bryan Heffron

2821 Parnell Ave. NE | Ada, MI 49301
KENT COUNTY
616-650-4240 (h/c)
Email: bryan.heffron@heffronfarms.com

DISTRICT 5 - ** Laura Braun

1774 S. Shepardsville Road | Ovid, MI 48866-9632
CLINTON COUNTY
989-277-5264 (c)
Email: laura.simonsen.braun@gmail.com

DISTRICT 6 - ** Chris Creguer

2549 W. Ackerman Road | Unionville, MI 48767
TUSCOLA COUNTY
989-670-1485 (c)
Email: creguerc@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 7 - Ken Punter

12080 Heights Ravenna Road | Ravenna, MI 49451
MUSKEGON COUNTY
231-853-6109 (h); 616-915-0485(c)
Email: kenpunter@gmail.com

DISTRICT 8 - ** Dana Carruthers

4546 Bay Arenac Line Road | Pinconning, MI 48650
ARENAC COUNTY
989-879-7697 (h/c)
Email: dnasalesinc@gmail.com

DISTRICT 9 - ** Kari Hughston

3701 W. Stoney Corners Rdoad | Mc Bain, MI 49657
MISSAUKEE COUNTY
231-825-8197(h); 231-846-1857(c)
Email: karihughston@hotmail.com

DISTRICT 10 - ** Norm Miller

3341 Lake Bluff Drive | Alpena, MI 49707
HURON SHORES
989-471-5523 (h)
Email: milldd12@gmail.com

DISTRICT 11 - Brian Bush

12063 S. Shunk Rd. | Dafer, MI 49724-9592
CHIPPEWA COUNTY
(906) 632-0581 (h)
(906)440-4363 (c)
Email: honeybush@gmail.com

AT LARGE

Pat McGuire

10445 N. US HWY 31 | Ellsworth, MI 49729
ANTRIM COUNTY
231-620-6885 (c)
Email: pmcgui2@michfb.com

Mike Fusilier

16400 Herman | Manchester, MI 48158
WASHTENAW COUNTY
(734) 428-8982 (w)
734-320-6063 (c)
Email: mfulili@michfb.com



THESE PROGRAMS CAN HELP *Farm Bureau members* GET ELECTED

MICHIGAN FARM BUREAU'S ACADEMY FOR POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

The program equips members with tools to get involved in government, represent agriculture and positively influence the legislative process.

Topics include: Campaign Management, Polling, Campaign Finance, Election Law, Lobbying, How Policy becomes Law, Etc.

The Academy for Political Leadership convenes four times for two day sessions.

MSU'S POLITICAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The 10-month program works with individuals committed to community service and brings them together to engage in a curriculum that incorporates practical politics, public policy analysis and process, personal leadership development and effective governance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Matt Kapp, Government Relations Specialist
Michigan Farm Bureau
mkapp@michfb.com • (517) 679-5338

“If you are thinking about running for office or looking to have a deeper understanding of the day to day of elected officials, the Academy offers that and more. The information, tools and resources I got from the program are not available anywhere else.”

-JERRY NEYER, ISABELLA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

“It was a very diverse program it covered many aspects, everything from considering your position to organizing your campaign to winning the campaign, I learned a lot.”

-BILL SCHULTZ, KALAMAZOO COUNTY FARM BUREAU



**WE NEED MORE FARMERS
TO RUN FOR OFFICE**



MICHIGAN'S VOICE OF AGRICULTURE