

Michigan Association of Chiropractors (MAC) District 6

Counties: Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Eaton, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren

MAC District 6 Congressional Districts

District	County	Incumbent (Party-Hometown)	Assumed Office	Communities Represented
2 nd	Allegan	<p>Bill Huizenga (R-Zeeland)</p> <p> GOP Base: 62.85% Democratic Base: 37.15% </p> <p> 2016 Presidential: Trump 55.69%, Clinton 38% 2012 Presidential: Romney 55.9%, Obama 42.99% </p> <p> <u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Dr. Rob Davidson (Ottawa County), ER physician </p>	2011-Present	Allegan (part) Holland city (part)
3 rd	Barry Calhoun	<p>Justin Amash (R-Grand Rapids)</p> <p> GOP Base: 58.82% Democratic Base: 41.18% </p> <p> 2016 Presidential: Trump 51.59%, Clinton 37.4% 2012 Presidential: Romney 53.08%, Obama 45.71% </p> <p> <u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Cathy Albro (Middleville), “Children and Family Advocate” </p>	2011-Present	Barry County Calhoun County
6 th	Allegan Berrien Cass Kalamazoo St. Joseph Van Buren	<p>Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph)</p> <p> GOP Base: 58.82% Democratic Base: 41.18% </p> <p> 2016 Presidential: Trump 51.59%, Clinton 37.4% 2012 Presidential: Romney 53.08%, Obama 45.71% </p> <p> <u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Matt Longjohn (Portage), former national health officer for YMCA </p>	1987-Present	Allegan County (part) Allegan city Allegan Township Casco Township Cheshire Township Clyde Township Dorr Township Village of Douglas city Fennville city Fillmore Township Ganges Township Gunplain Township Heath Township Holland city (part)

				Hopkins Township Laketown Township Lee Township Leighton Township Manlius Township Martin Township Monterey Township Otsego city Otsego Township Overisel Township Plainwell city Salem Township Saugatuck city Saugatuck Township South Haven city Trowbridge Township Valley Township Watson Township Wayland city Wayland Township Berrien County Cass County Kalamazoo County St Joseph County Van Buren County
7 th	Branch Eaton	<p>Tim Walberg (R-Tipton). Member, Energy and Commerce</p> <p>GOP Base: 58.79% Democratic Base: 41.21%</p> <p>2016 Presidential: Trump 55.6%, Clinton 38.66% 2012 Presidential: Romney 50.81%, Obama 47.72%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate: Gretchen Driskell</u> (Saline). Former two-term member of the Michigan House (2013-2016), former mayor of Saline (1999-2012).</p> <p>Rematch of 2016, which Walberg won by 55%-40%.</p>	2007-2008, 2011-Present	Branch County Eaton County

MAC District 6 State Senate Districts

District	County	Incumbent (Party-Hometown)	Term	Communities Represented
16 th	Branch	<p>Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) Chair, Health Policy Vice Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Community Health Widely expected to be next Senate Majority Leader</p> <p>GOP Base = 64.9%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Val Cochran Toops (Michigan Center), livestock farmer, former Vice Chair, Jackson County Democratic Women’s Caucus, member, Jackson Human Relations Committee</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Ronald Muszynski (Grass Lake), retired engineer</p>	First	Branch County
19 th	Barry Calhoun	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by term-limited Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek)</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 61.88%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Current second-term state Rep. Dr. John Bizon (Battle Creek), ear, nose, and throat otolaryngologist who serves on House Appropriations DHHS subcommittee</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Jason Noble (Middleville), substitute teacher and customer service professional, progressive</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Joseph Gillotte (Lyons), owns direct mail and computer service business, perennial Libertarian candidate</p>	Second	Barry County Calhoun County
20 th	Kalamazoo	<p>Margaret O’Brien (R-Portage) <i>Member, Health Policy, Insurance</i></p> <p>Democratic Base = 52.61%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Former state Rep. Sean McCann (Kalamazoo)(2011-2014), former member, Kalamazoo County Commission (2001-2010)</p>	First	Kalamazoo County

Libertarian Candidate: Former Republican state Rep. **Lawrence Wenke** (Galesburg)(2003-2008), left GOP over discrimination “against our gay family members, friends, and neighbors.”

This election is an all-party rematch of 2014, when O’Brien (45.58%) beat McCann (45.5%) and Wenke (8.92%) by a mere 61 votes.

Gongwer Analysis (Thursday, September 27): *Ranked #2 most likely district to flip (Unchanged)*. Both parties are making an expensive play in this seat, with Sen. Margaret O’Brien (R-Portage) launching numerous ads and working the district hard to hold her seat she won by 61 votes four years ago against Democratic former Kalamazoo Rep. Sean McCann. Mr. McCann is hoping to make a spike in Democratic enthusiasm work to his advantage in a district where, like the 29th, support for the president is very soft and the demographics favor them in the current political environment. Despite her strengths including incumbency and working on sexual assault legislation in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal, Ms. O’Brien finds herself in a tough position. Up until recently it appeared that Ms. O’Brien was in serious trouble but has kept the race close and has had strong financial support while putting up a series of ads. This race is expected to be a dogfight down to the wire and both sides are emphasizing this seat as a major part of the equation for control of the Senate. A month ago, it was hard to find many who thought Ms. O’Brien could win. Now, as Democrats begin to fret that Ms. O’Brien could outwit Mr. McCann again, there’s amazement at the job she has done to stay in the mix. Democrats have a 20-year history of heartbreak in the Kalamazoo County Senate seat.

Gongwer Analysis (Thursday, September 27): *Ranked #2 most likely district to flip (Previously 4th)*. Primary turnout in this rematch of the 2014 race broke sharply for the Democrats last month, to the tune of 9,000 more votes for Democratic former Kalamazoo Rep.

Sean McCann than for Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage). Despite her strengths, including incumbency and working on sexual assault legislation in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal, Ms. O'Brien finds herself in a tough position in an area where, like Kent County, Mr. Trump performed very poorly in 2016 and Democratic enthusiasm is markedly higher. This is a fight where Republicans are going to need to consider spending huge money to save the seat in a tough environment. It's not so much that Ms. O'Brien has made a serious error but she only won by 61 votes four years ago and now faces a terrible environment for a Republican in the county. It's hard to find anyone who thinks Ms. O'Brien will win. One thing though: that was the case four years ago.

Gongwer Analysis (Wednesday, August 22): *Ranked #4 most likely district to flip.* The rematch against Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and former Democratic Rep. Sean McCann of Kalamazoo is expected to be an expensive, hard-fought match.

Ms. O'Brien has the advantage of incumbency and worked on several headline-grabbing topics, most notably a package of bills to combat sexual assault in the wake of the Larry Nassar scandal. However, Mr. Trump performed very poorly in the district in 2016 and it could aid Mr. McCann, who only lost by 61 votes in 2014. McCann also earned more than 9,000 more votes than Ms. O'Brien in the August primary, which could bode well for Democrats in terms of voter enthusiasm. The question in this seat is whether the environment proves simply too much for Ms. O'Brien's political strengths to overcome.

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, November 1): *Ranked #5 most likely to flip (Previously #4).* Libertarian Lorence WENKE's impact likely won't be what it was in 2014, but this one may still go down to the wire. If Sean McCANN spelled his name "S-h-a-w-n," we'd have this one ranked higher. This pink wave thing is that real.

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, October 18): *Ranked #4*

		<p><i>most likely to flip (Previously 3rd). Sen. Margaret O'BRIEN (R-Portage) television ads with the Larry NASSAR survivors are compelling, which may explain why this race is tightening. If 2018 does end up being the "Year of the Woman," Republicans are going to be thrilled with having O'Brien on their team.</i></p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Thursday, September 27): <i>Ranked #2 most likely to flip (Previously 3rd). Sen. Margaret O'BRIEN (R-Portage) is on a new hot-stove topic: Ending childhood marriages in Michigan. A local TV station put together a compelling report on the subject this week and O'Brien already has her bill request in. Once it's introduced, look for Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Rick JONES to hold a hearing on the bill, pronto. In terms of scoring strong earned media, O'Brien has knocked it out of the park this year.</i></p> <p>Meanwhile, the numbers are still tough for O'Brien. In her old House district, Target Insyght has her essentially tied with Democrat Sean McCANN 47 and 46 percent with Libertarian Lorence WENKE at 6 percent.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Wednesday, August 22): <i>Ranked #3 most likely to flip. The numbers aren't looking great for the easy frontrunner for the MIRS 2018 Senator of the Year honors, Sen. Margaret O'BRIEN. As if she didn't have enough on her plate, she's been dealing with PFAS water contamination in her district, too. She only beat Sean McCANN by 61 votes four years ago and Libertarian Lorence WENKE is back to suck away votes from here.</i></p>		
21 st	Berrien Cass St. Joseph	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by term-limited John Proos (R-St. Joseph)</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 62.61%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Current first-term state Rep. Kim LaSata (Bainbridge) (2017-Present), former teacher (2015 Teacher of the Year), member, House Appropriations Committee DHHS Subcommittee</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Ian Haight (St. Joseph),</p>	N/A	Berrien County Cass County St. Joseph County

		provides instructional technology services for Berrien Regional Education Service Agency, former Hagar Township Clerk		
24 th	Eaton	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge)</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 56.65%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Current two-term state Rep. Tom Barrett (Potterville) (2015-Present), US Army Veteran, National Guard, helicopter pilot</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Kelly Rossman-McKinney (DeWitt), long-time Lansing PR professional</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Katie Nepton (Dimondale), attorney</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Tuesday, October 23): <i>Ranked #9 most likely district to flip (Previously #10). An expensive advertising war has emerged between Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville) and Delta Township Democrat Kelly Rossman-McKinney, with both sides blanketing the airwaves and conservative groups attacking Ms. Rossman-McKinney's past as head of a well-known Lansing public relations firm. Outside groups that attacked Mr. Barrett during the primary have still not entered the general election fight, and if they do not – and the speculation is Consumers Energy has decided to stay out of the general election unlike the primary – that hurts Ms. Rossman-McKinney's chances in this traditionally Republican district. Clinton County is still conservative though the DeWitt and Bath areas have become more Democratic, Eaton County has shifted to about 50/50 but Shiawassee is strongly Republican and is a thorn in Democrats' side that has kept this district in Republican hands. Democratic primary turnout was up 129 percent to the 70 percent increase for Republicans compared to 2014 but the GOP had more turnout overall district-wide. Republican-affiliated groups hammered Ms. Rossman-McKinney on television for weeks. She's just now started to hit back with negative ads of her own against Mr. Barrett. Ms. Rossman-McKinney has put her all into this race, but</i></p>	N/A	Eaton County

it's a tough district for a Democrat.

Gongwer Analysis (Thursday, September 27): *Ranked #10 most likely district to flip (Previously #8).*

Nothing has changed in this race, with Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville) locked in a close race in usually solid Republican turf against Delta Township Democrat Kelly Rossman-McKinney, the longtime public relations firm owner. The other races heating up and the anti-Republican environment in Detroit suburbs caused this race to drop in the rankings. Mr. Barrett has been working the district hard but so is Ms. Rossman-McKinney. While Mr. Barrett had to spend a large chunk of money in his primary race, Ms. Rossman-McKinney has begun to flood the airwaves with advertisements in an attempt to narrow the gap. The talk in both parties is her efforts are working and this race is close. One thing to watch is whether outside groups that attacked Mr. Barrett during the primary resume those efforts during the general election with ads; this has not yet happened and there's considerable disagreement in the Capitol community about what will happen on that front. The math is still daunting for Ms. Rossman-McKinney. She has to run up a big margin in Eaton County, which Mr. Barrett has represented for four years, run reasonably well in Clinton and the Ingham portions and not get totally blown out in Shiawassee. One factor to watch, however, is the burgeoning Democratic vote in southern Clinton County.

Gongwer Analysis (Wednesday, August 22): *Ranked #8 most likely district to flip.* Democrats are feeling optimistic about their chances with longtime public relations executive Kelly Rossman-McKinney of Delta Township in the 24th Senate District, a traditionally solid Republican area, due to strong fundraising and campaigning she has shown thus far.

Standing in her way is solidly conservative Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Potterville), who cruised through an expensive and contentious primary despite outside money being spent to prop up his primary opponent. The contested Republican primary had more votes

cast (31,416) than on the Democratic side (25,190).

Democrats are hoping Ms. Rossman-McKinney's strong fundraising and campaigning can make inroads in the district and that a blue wave could help her come out on top. The potential for further spending by outside groups is a possibility that might be helpful to Democrats. Already, a 501(c)4 group, Bipartisan Solutions, is airing issue ads backing Ms. Rossman-McKinney, who herself is on television too.

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, November 1): *Ranked #8 most likely to flip (Previously #9)*. That's a lot of late money Republicans are putting into Rep. Tom BARRETT, a candidate they were extremely confident in about a month ago (See "Senate R's Feeling Even Better About SD-24," 10/2/18). Maybe it's to combat anti-Barrett robocalls like this one sent to a MIRS correspondent: "Measles, mumps and polio are music to Tom Barrett's ears." It's a reference to Barrett's bill that make it easier for parents to get out of vaccinating their kids (See "Vaccination Waiver Complaints Take Center Stage, Holds DHHS To One Minute," 5/25/17). If Democrats win majority, Kelly ROSSMAN-McKINNEY should be given a leadership and/or chair post of her choosing. She's essentially self-funded this race and allowed Senate Democratic Fund money to go elsewhere.

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, October 18): *Ranked #9 most likely to flip (Previously 8th)*. This one is becoming a TV proxy war between the pro-Kelly ROSSMAN-McKINNEY Bi-partisan Solutions and the pro-Tom BARRETT Michigan Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility. Rossman-McKinney's ability to put her own money into this race is also adding to the ballooning total of spending being seen here. The SRCC isn't spending here, their polling showing Barrett has this one taken care of (See "Senate R's Feeling Even Better About SD-24," 10/2/18)

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, September 27): *Ranked #8 most likely to flip (Previously #9)*. Democrat Kelly ROSSMAN-McKINNEY is seeing movement from

		<p>her numerous TV campaign ads. She's not done spending and her allies aren't either. The AFL-CIO is doing labor walks for her, too, as the recent Target Insyght/MIRS poll in this district showed her up 38 to 20 percent among independents. Republicans still don't believe she's for real. If they find polling that contradicts this, they feel a little bit of paid media spending that paints her as a Lansing lobbyist should finish her off.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Wednesday, August 22): <i>Ranked #9 most likely to flip.</i> Rep. Tom BARRETT's (R-Pottersville) skills as a retail, door-to-door politician are multi-pronged, as he showed in the primary. Too short to trim your shrubs? Tom will take care of it! We'll see if chases away critters, too, like Sen. Rick JONES did for one constituent or drives home tipsy bar patron, as he did another.</p> <p>Seriously, if this wasn't the successful public relations guru Kelly ROSSMAN-McKINNEY running in this district, we probably wouldn't be even talking about it.</p>		
26 th	Allegan Van Buren	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by term-limited Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Portage)</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 62.6%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Former three-term state Rep. Aric Nesbitt (Lawton) (2011-2016), former state lottery commissioner, former legislative director in U.S. House of Representatives</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Garnet Lewis (Saugatuck), business manager for Vigano, former educator, Chair, City of Saugatuck Planning Commission, former member of Northern Michigan University's Board of Trustees</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Erwin Haas, MD (Kentwood), physicianformer Kentwood City Commissioner, frequent Libertarian candidate</p>	N/A	Allegan County Van Buren County

MAC District 6 State House Districts

District	County	Incumbent (Party-Hometown)	Term	Communities Represented
58 th	Branch	<p>Eric Leutheuser (R-Coldwater)</p> <p>GOP Base = 72.70%</p> <p>Democratic Candidate: Tamara Barnes (Coldwater), academic background in history, Gov. Snyder appointee to Michigan Freedom Trail Commission,</p>	Second	Branch County
59 th	Cass St. Joseph	<p>Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis)</p> <p>GOP Base = 61.9%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Dennis Smith (Centreville), retired Lutheran pastor</p>	Second	Cass County (part) Calvin township Dowagiac city Jefferson township LaGrange township Marcellus township Mason township Newberg township Penn township Pokagon township Porter township Volinia township Wayne township St. Joseph County
60 th	Kalamazoo	<p>Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo)</p> <p>Democratic Base = 70.77%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> William Baker (), Ron Paul supporter in 2008, works at Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital, income tax preparer</p>	Second	Kalamazoo County (part) Kalamazoo city Kalamazoo Township (part) Portage city (part)
61 st	Kalamazoo	<p>Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemp Township)</p> <p>GOP Base = 53.40%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Alberta Griffin (Portage), doctoral fellow at Western Michigan, owns analytics consulting company, infant mortality prevention consultant for State of Michigan</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Friday, November 2): Ranked #8 most likely district to flip (Previously #6). It's no surprise that in the final days of the campaign Rep. Brandt Iden's (R-Oshtemo Township) race against Democrat Alberta Griffin of Texas Township is a</p>	First	Kalamazoo County (part) Oshtemo township Portage city (part) Prairie Ronde township Schoolcraft township Texas township

tossup. Both candidates have raised significant money – slightly more impressive for Ms. Griffin who trailed Mr. Iden in fundraising until recent weeks – both have caucus support, and both are working hard in the final stretch. The environment in Kalamazoo County is awful for the GOP given Mr. Trump's low standing there, but voters split their ticket for Mr. Iden in 2016. But Democrats have a new face in 2018 after running the same candidate in 2014 and 2016, and there is no third-party candidate this year to split the anti-incumbent vote. That Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) has hung tough in her race bodes well for Mr. Iden.

Gongwer Analysis (Tuesday, October 23): *Ranked #6 most likely district to flip (Previously #7)*. The never-ending question for Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) is if he is actually in trouble or if Democratic hopes on blocking his re-election will be crushed. Mr. Iden has appeared in trouble in both of his previous elections, and Republicans say he is in better shape in 2018 than he was in 2014 or 2016 heading into election day. Democrats are happy with Alberta Griffin of Texas Township and the work she is putting in. Dems see a good opportunity in this district and are spending heavily. The environment in Kalamazoo County is awful for the GOP given Mr. Trump's low standing there.

Gongwer Analysis (Friday, September 21): *Ranked #7 most likely district to flip (Previously 8th)*. Is Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) in trouble, or is it the same old, same old? Democrats appear to have their strongest candidate to challenge Mr. Iden to date in Alberta Griffin of Texas Township. But Mr. Iden has appeared in trouble in 2014 and 2016 while still managing to come back to Lansing. There is some doubt in Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) returning to Lansing, which might have some effect here. Her performance was key to Mr. Iden's 2014 win. Mr. Trump is radioactive in Kalamazoo County.

Gongwer Analysis (Friday, August 10: *Ranked #8 most likely district to flip*). Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) has not broken 50 percent in the 61st

House District as he now seeks his third and final term. Democrats think he is vulnerable, but Republicans say he hasn't stopped knocking doors in four years and point to his \$100,000 in cash. Democrats have Alberta Griffin of Portage, a doctoral fellow at Western Michigan University. They think they can make the race interesting.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, November 2): *Ranked #8 most likely to flip (Previously 7th)*. Alberta "Berta" GRIFFIN got \$255,000 from the HDF today to counter what the chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee has been able to marshal. This is may be one of those cases were having run a few campaigns before will be to Rep. Brandt IDEN's benefit. If Griffin and the Democrats in the aforementioned seats all win, the D's have managed a 55-55 split.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, October 19): *Ranked #7 most likely to flip (Previously 5th)*. The numbers are moving up for Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.), who never polls very well but always seems to find a way to win his races.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, September 28): *Ranked #5 most likely to flip (Unchanged)*. With polling showing Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.) down 52 to 43 percent, the chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee must be feeling nervous. Part of the issue could be name ID. The Target Insyght survey showed that 48 percent say they've never heard of Iden before or have no opinion. Meanwhile, Trump is viewed negatively by 54 percent of voters in this Kalamazoo County District, which isn't good considering Iden was a Trump delegate two years ago. Iden's high position on the "wined and dined" list won't help him, and neither will large numbers of Western Michigan University voters showing up Nov. 6.

MIRS Analysis (Thursday, August 23): *Ranked #5 most likely to flip*. Alberta GRIFFIN is far stronger candidate

		<p>than John FISCHER, but she has next to nothing in the bank. The way the primary numbers are looking, Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.) will need to spend the \$100,000 he's got in the bank or risk losing the former home of conservative Jack HOOGENDYK for possibly the first time in its history.</p>		
62 nd	Calhoun	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by two-term state Rep. Dr. John Bizon (R-Battle Creek), who beat Dr. Mike Callton for the Republican nomination in the 19th Senate District</i></p> <p>Democratic Base = 50.27</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate: Jim Haadsma</u> (Battle Creek), former Calhoun County Commissioner, attorney</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate: Dave Morgan</u> (Pennfield Township), former police officer, Air National Guard Veteran, Veteran of Desert Storm, supervisor of Pennfield Charter Township</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Friday, November 2): <i>Ranked #8 most likely district to flip (Previously #6).</i> It's no surprise that in the final days of the campaign Rep. Brandt Iden's (R-Oshtemo Township) race against Democrat Alberta Griffin of Texas Township is a tossup. Both candidates have raised significant money – slightly more impressive for Ms. Griffin who trailed Mr. Iden in fundraising until recent weeks – both have caucus support, and both are working hard in the final stretch. The environment in Kalamazoo County is awful for the GOP given Mr. Trump's low standing there, but voters split their ticket for Mr. Iden in 2016. But Democrats have a new face in 2018 after running the same candidate in 2014 and 2016, and there is no third-party candidate this year to split the anti-incumbent vote. That Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) has hung tough in her race bodes well for Mr. Iden.</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Tuesday, October 23): <i>Ranked #6 most likely district to flip (Previously #7).</i> The never-ending question for Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) is if he is actually in trouble or if Democratic hopes on blocking his re-election will be crushed. Mr.</p>	N/A	<p>Calhoun County (part)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albion city Albion Township Battle Creek city Bedford township Clarence township Convis township Lee township Pennfield township Sheridan township Springfield city

Iden has appeared in trouble in both of his previous elections, and Republicans say he is in better shape in 2018 than he was in 2014 or 2016 heading into election day. Democrats are happy with Alberta Griffin of Texas Township and the work she is putting in. Dems see a good opportunity in this district and are spending heavily. The environment in Kalamazoo County is awful for the GOP given Mr. Trump's low standing there.

Gongwer Analysis (Friday, September 21): *Ranked #7 most likely district to flip (Previously 8th)*. Is Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) in trouble, or is it the same old, same old? Democrats appear to have their strongest candidate to challenge Mr. Iden to date in Alberta Griffin of Texas Township. But Mr. Iden has appeared in trouble in 2014 and 2016 while still managing to come back to Lansing. There is some doubt in Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) returning to Lansing, which might have some effect here. Her performance was key to Mr. Iden's 2014 win. Mr. Trump is radioactive in Kalamazoo County.

Gongwer Analysis (Friday, August 10: *Ranked #8 most likely district to flip*). Rep. Brandt Iden (R-Oshtemo Township) has not broken 50 percent in the 61st House District as he now seeks his third and final term. Democrats think he is vulnerable, but Republicans say he hasn't stopped knocking doors in four years and point to his \$100,000 in cash. Democrats have Alberta Griffin of Portage, a doctoral fellow at Western Michigan University. They think they can make the race interesting.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, November 2): *Ranked #8 most likely to flip (Previously 7th)*. Alberta "Berta" GRIFFIN got \$255,000 from the HDF today to counter what the chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee has been able to marshal. This is may be one of those cases were having run a few campaigns before will be to Rep. Brandt IDEN's benefit. If Griffin and the Democrats in the aforementioned seats all win, the D's have managed a

		<p>55-55 split.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Friday, October 19): Ranked #7 most likely to flip (Previously 5th). The numbers are moving up for Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.), who never polls very well but always seems to find a way to win his races.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Friday, September 28): Ranked #5 most likely to flip (Unchanged). With polling showing Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.) down 52 to 43 percent, the chair of the House Regulatory Reform Committee must be feeling nervous. Part of the issue could be name ID. The Target Insyght survey showed that 48 percent say they've never heard of Iden before or have no opinion. Meanwhile, Trump is viewed negatively by 54 percent of voters in this Kalamazoo County District, which isn't good considering Iden was a Trump delegate two years ago. Iden's high position on the "wined and dined" list won't help him, and neither will large numbers of Western Michigan University voters showing up Nov. 6.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Thursday, August 23): Ranked #5 most likely to flip. Alberta GRIFFIN is far stronger candidate than John FISCHER, but she has next to nothing in the bank. The way the primary numbers are looking, Rep. Brandt IDEN (R-Oshtemo Twp.) will need to spend the \$100,000 he's got in the bank or risk losing the former home of conservative Jack HOOGENDYK for possibly the first time in its history.</p>		
63 rd	Calhoun Kalamazoo	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by two-term state Rep. Dave Maturen (R-), who lost his bid for re-election in the Republican Primary</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 62.83%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate</u>: Matt Hall (Emmett Township), constitutional law attorney, previously represented Calhoun County as a member of the Michigan Republican Party State Committee, served as district chairman for President Donald Trump's campaign</p>	N/A	Calhoun County (part) Athens township Burlington township Clarendon township Eckford township Emmett township Fredonia township Homer township Leroy township Marengo township Marshall city Marshall Township

		<p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Jennifer Aniano (Augusta), teacher, vice president of Kalamazoo Education Association, retired mixed martial arts professional fighter, current competitor in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, endorsed by MEA</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Ronald Hawkins (Battle Creek), worked for Department of Defense for 40 years, \$1,000 waiver</p>		<p>Newton township Tekonsha township Kalamazoo County (part) Brady township Charleston township Climax township Comstock township Galesburg city Kalamazoo Township Pavilion township Richland township Ross township Wakeshma township</p>
65 th	Eaton County	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by two-term state Rep. Brett Roberts (R), who unsuccessfully ran for Michigan Senate in 2018</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 62.58%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Sarah Lightner (Springport), Jackson County Commissioner, former paralegal</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Terri McKinnon (Leoni Township), worked in nonprofits</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Jason Rees (Grass Lake), former high school math teacher, teaches at Jackson Community College in the Prison Education Initiative program</p>	N/A	<p>Eaton County (part) Brookfield township Eaton Township Eaton Rapids city Hamlin township</p>
66 th	Kalamazoo Van Buren	<p>Beth Griffin (R-Paw Paw) <i>Former public member of Michigan Board of Chiropractic</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 59.84%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Dan Seibert (Paw Paw), systems engineer,</p>	First	<p>Kalamazoo County (part) Alamo township Cooper township Parchment city Van Buren County</p>
71 st	Eaton	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by two-term state Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Charlotte), who is the Republican nominee in the 24th Michigan Senate District</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 52.03%</p>	N/A	<p>Eaton County (part) Bellevue township Benton township Carmel township Charlotte city Chester township Delta township</p>

		<p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Christine Barnes (Mulliken), NRA instructor, Eaton County Board of Commissioners,</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Angela Witwer (Delta Township), small business owner, co-owns and serves as president of Edge Partnerships, a full-service marketing, public relations and advertising agency in downtown Lansing, vice president of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education, worked at Sparrow Health System for 22 years as part of the clinical staff in the Burn Unit and as the manager of pediatric rehabilitation before becoming the manager of the health system's Community Relations Department</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Friday, November 2): <i>Ranked #6 most likely district to flip (Previously #5)</i>. Another seat going down to the wire. Both Republican Christine Barnes of Mulliken and Democrat Angela Witwer of Delta Township appear ready to fight it out until the end. Both have attack ads on television at this point, though the Republicans were up much earlier. The environment in this district isn't quite as favorable as in Oakland and western Wayne counties, but it's still to the benefit of the Democrats. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gretchen Whitmer is said to be miles ahead of Republican Bill Schuette in Eaton County, so all eyes will be out for a coattail effect.</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Tuesday, October 23): <i>Ranked #5 most likely district to flip (Unchanged)</i>. Republican Christine Barnes of Mulliken and Democrat Angela Witwer of Delta Township continue to battle it out in this seat with both sides claiming confidence. Ms. Barnes did have the airwaves to herself for a couple weeks before Democrats were on TV for Ms. Witwer. Republicans are starting to air a negative ad about Ms. Witwer on TV as well. Still, without Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Pottersville) as a candidate, Democrats should have the edge.</p> <p>Gongwer Analysis (Friday, September 21): <i>Ranked #5 most likely district to flip (Previously 2nd)</i>. Democrats are continuing to feel more confident about their</p>	<p>Eaton Township (part) Eaton Rapids Township Grand Ledge city Kalama township Lansing city Olivet city Oneida township Pottersville city Roxand township Sunfield township Vermontville township Walton township Windsor township</p>
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candidate, Angela Witwer of Delta Township in this open seat vacated by Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Pottersville) as he runs for Senate. Republicans have Eaton County Commissioner Christine Barnes of Mulliken who is being helped by Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge). This one will go down to the wire. Democrat Kelly Rossman-McKinney's performance in the area's Senate race could help Ms. Witwer. The fall down the list doesn't reflect any problems for Ms. Witwer, whom sources say is a clear favorite, just how strong the current is for Democrats in Oakland County.

Gongwer Analysis (Friday, August 10): *Ranked #2 most likely district to flip.* Democrats say the 71st House District would not have gotten much attention if it had not opened up. Now, it is likely to go to the wire with two hard working candidates: Democrat Angela Witwer of Delta Township is going up against Eaton County Commissioner Christine Barnes. Democrats feel good about Ms. Witwer and her ability to campaign and raise money. Republicans are happy they have a female candidate here, and Mr. Barrett being on the ballot for the Senate could be helpful. Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) is also expected to help Ms. Barnes.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, November 2): *Ranked #6 most likely to flip (Previously #5).* Former Vice President Joe BIDEN gives Angela WITWER a special shout-out in Lansing this week, the same week she gets the support of the Lansing City Pulse and the Lansing State Journal, which seems to be leaning hard to Democrats this year. Can someone figure out how to stop sharing that video that reveals Christine BARNES' social security number?

MIRS Analysis (Friday, October 19): *Ranked #5 most likely to flip (Previously #6).* Republicans think Christine BARNES is winning. Democrats are convinced Angela WITWER is winning. Suffice to say if the D's don't take this bellwether seat, a majority is absolutely off the table.

MIRS Analysis (Friday, September 28): *Ranked #6 most likely to flip (Previously #7).* Outside polling is all over the place with Democrat Angela WITWER doing

		<p>well in Democratic circles, although Republicans have Witwer making statements in support of raising the gas tax and banning semi-automatic weapons, which isn't going to play in rural Eaton County, where Christine BARNES is presumably strong. Witwer's name ID after years in Eaton County and at the Waverly School Board is strong, but Barnes is knocking a lot of doors and is pushing her National Rifle Association (NRA) certification as a gun safety trainer hard.</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Thursday, August 23): <i>Ranked #7 most likely to flip.</i> This Delta Township district didn't drop. Other districts surpassed it in the rankings. Angela WITWER is going to benefit from Gretchen DRISKELL and Kelly ROSSMAN-McKINNEY working this Eaton County piece hard. Both will need huge Democratic voter turnout here in order for either of them to be successful. Witmer would be the beneficiary.</p>		
72 nd	Allegan	<p>Steve Johnson (R-Wayland)</p> <p>GOP Base = 59.88%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Ron Draayer (Kentwood), career educator, retired from Davenport University, active board member of Michigan InfoGard, a partnership between the FBI and private sector</p> <p><u>Libertarian Candidate:</u> Jamie Lewis (Wayland), 2014 Libertarian candidate for Michigan Secretary of State, skilled tradesman, \$1,000 waiver</p>	First	Allegan County (part) Dorr township Leighton township Wayland city Wayland Township
78 th	Berrien Cass	<p>OPEN</p> <p><i>Currently held by term-limited state Rep. Dave Pagel (R-Oronko Township)</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 61.2%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate:</u> Brad Paquette (Niles), Niles Planning Commission, educator at Niles New Tech,</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate:</u> Dean Hill (Niles), 2016 nominee for this seat (lost 67-32% to Pagel), retired teacher in Dowagiac schools</p>	N/A	Berrien County (part) Baroda township Berrien township Bertrand township Buchanan city Buchanan township Chikaming township Galien township New Buffalo city New Buffalo Township Niles city Niles Township Oronoko township

				Pipestone township Sodus township Three Oaks township Weesaw township Cass County (part) Howard township Milton township Niles city Ontwa township Silver Creek township
79 th	Berrien	<p>OPEN <i>Currently held by first-term state Rep. Kim LaSata (R-), whom is the Republican nominee in the 21st Senate District</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 57.33%</p> <p><u>Republican Candidate: Pauline Wendzel</u> (Watervliet), sales and marketing manager for Coloma Frozen Foods</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate: Joey Andrews</u> (St. Joseph), self-described “progressive millennial,” founder of solar energy installation company,</p> <p>MIRS Analysis (Thursday, August 23): <i>Ranked #16 most likely to flip. Does the Blue Wave splash into St. Joseph/Benton Harbor? Joey ANDREWS is a good Democratic candidate in a better year for Dems. We're going to keep an eye on it.</i></p>	N/A	Berrien County (part) Bainbridge township Benton township Benton Harbor city Bridgman township Coloma city Coloma Township Hagar township Lake township Lincoln township Royalton township St. Joseph city St. Joseph Township Watervliet city Watervliet township
80 th	Allegan	<p>Mary Whiteford (R-Casco Township) <i>Former pediatric nurse</i></p> <p>GOP Base = 64.42%</p> <p><u>Democratic Candidate: Mark Ludwig</u> (Fennville), farmer and maintenance manager</p>	First	Allegan County (part) Allegan city Allegan Township Casco township Cheshire township Clyde township Village of Douglas city Fennville city Fillmore township Ganges township Gunplain township Heath township Holland city Hopkins township Laketown township

				Lee township Manlius township Martin township Monterey township Otsego city Otsego Township Overisel township Plainwell city Salem township Saugatuck city Saugatuck township South Haven city Trowbridge township Valley township Watson township
87 th	Barry	Julie Calley (R-Portland) <i>Member, Health Policy Committee</i> GOP Base = 69.34% <u>Democratic Candidate: Shawn Marie Winters</u> (Hastings), \$1,000 waiver, no other information known at this time	First	Barry County