



State of Play

MICHIGAN MIDTERMS

The rights of Michiganders are under threat with extremists running for statewide office and up and down the ballot. Abortion rights, book bans, voting rights, and public education are just some of the key issues at stake. Election deniers are running for office, threatening our democracy.

This guide is a snapshot of who is running and why it matters.



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Who & What's On The Ballot?



State Supreme Court

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

7 members are elected by Michigan voters for 8-year terms. Races are technically nonpartisan.

Each state's high court has final authority over how state law and state constitutions are interpreted. Michigan's Supreme Court ensured reproductive freedom would be on the ballot this year after right-wing extremists tried to interfere.

*Retaining the current Democratic majority is a top priority
The court could be the final word on abortion bans and the freedom to vote*

Judge Richard Bernstein



Democratically-affiliated Judge Richard Bernstein is running for reelection. Richard supports reproductive rights.

Rep. Kyra Harris Bolden



State Representative Kyra Harris Bolden is a new mother, a Black woman from Southfield, and will protect fundamental Michigan values. Kyra's opponent was one of the Republicans who voted to keep the reproductive rights amendment off the ballot.



Current Situation

4 **DEMOCRATS**

3 **REPUBLICANS**

1 **DEMOCRAT-HELD SEAT &
1 REPUBLICAN-HELD SEAT
ARE UP IN 2022**



WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

The Michigan Supreme Court is one of the most important judicial contests in the country.

- The court has the power to overturn the extreme 1931 Michigan law banning abortion.
- The Supreme Court has the power to set gun laws for schools and other places where families gather and decide what kind of education our kids receive.
- There is only one seat standing between Michigan families and the kinds of extreme right-wing rulings in neighboring states.



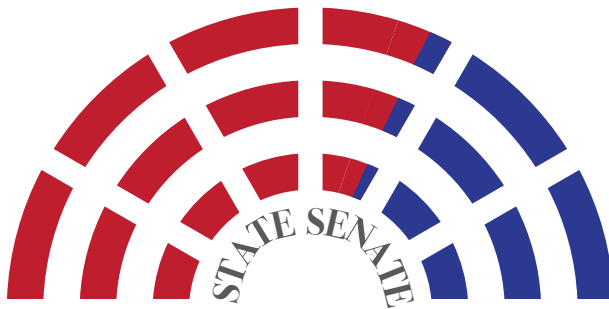
State Legislature

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

Extreme Republicans control both chambers of the Michigan state legislature. They could take action to help protect our kids from gun violence and our reproductive rights. But instead, they have attempted to restrict how schools can teach race and American history, withhold funding to districts requiring COVID public health measures and ban trans kids from playing sports.

2022 is a key opportunity to end the Republican hold on the Michigan state legislature

Current Situation

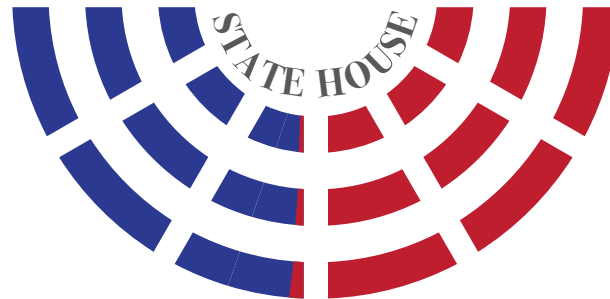


22 REPUBLICANS
16 DEMOCRATS

All **38 seats** are up
for election

56 REPUBLICANS
53 DEMOCRATS

All **110 seats** are up
for election



***Democrats need 3 Senate seats and
4 House seats to flip the legislature***



School Boards

WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

Culture war attacks against public education are spreading like wildfire. School districts in Michigan have been under some of the heaviest national assault from right-wing extremists over masking and other COVID-19 public health policies since the start of the pandemic.

Voting for local candidates who put kids over politics is our chance to keep extremists from being elected to school boards and attacking public education directly.



Ballot Initiatives

Promote the Vote aka proposal 2

This initiative gives voters the opportunity to expand voting access by adding nine days of early in-person voting and would allow voters to make one request for absentee ballots for all future elections, rather than having to make a new request every election.

Vote **YES** to secure and expand voting rights in MI!

Reproductive Freedom for All aka proposal 3

Michigan women banded together to take back our freedom to decide when and whether to grow our families, and collected more signatures than ever before in state history to put those freedoms on the ballot in November.

The Reproductive Freedom for All ballot initiative will protect our right to determine our own reproductive future — birth control, IVF, abortion, and miscarriage management. Michigan families do not want the government controlling our pregnancies or a law from 1931 telling us what medical care we can receive.

Vote **YES** to restore Roe in MI!



U.S. Congress

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

The U.S. Congress is both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

In the U.S. House of Representatives, each state's number of representatives is based on their population. There are a total of 435 representatives, up for election every 2 years.

In the U.S. Senate, 2 Senators represent every state and they serve for 6 years.

WHY DOES THIS MATTER NOW?

Congressional Republicans have recently voted against:

- Lowering the price of insulin for Americans.
- Protecting birth control.
- Marriage equality and interracial marriage.

If they win a majority of seats, Congressional Republicans have vowed to pass a federal ban on abortion.



State Executive Offices

HOW IT WORKS & WHAT'S AT STAKE:

Governor

The governor has the power to veto the legislature, sign bills into law and serves as the state's chief executive. They outline a policy direction for the state. The governor also establishes the cabinet of officials who will have a large impact on state affairs throughout their term.

Secretary of State

This office is in charge of managing elections, voter registration, and overseeing drivers licenses and vehicle registrations, among other key roles. This is a key position that can determine how undermined voting rights become in Michigan.

Attorney General

The attorney general is the state's top lawyer and is on the front lines fighting for reproductive rights because of the ongoing lawsuit against a 1931 law that would ban abortion. Current Attorney General Dana Nessel is challenging the law in court, but a new AG could abandon the fight.

Current Situation

Gretchen Whitmer



Tudor Dixon



This year, Democratic Governor Gretchen Whitmer is running for reelection to her second term against extremist Republican Tudor Dixon.

Tudor Dixon has opposed public school investment, was endorsed by Trump, has denied that Biden won Michigan, and has claimed that rape victims find "healing" through having a baby.

Jocelyn Benson



Kristina Karamo



Jocelyn Benson is the current Secretary of State. She has been in office since 2018 and will continue to uphold democratic elections.

She is challenged by Kristina Karamo, who is a conspiracy theorist and promotes the Big Lie, was part of a lawsuit that tried to get the Supreme Court to throw out Biden's victories in Michigan and other states and has promoted false claims about Michigan's 2020 election technology.

Dana Nessel



Matt DePerno



The current Attorney General, Dana Nessel, is running for reelection this year. She has said she won't force prosecutors to go after women who have abortions.

She is challenged by Matt DePerno, who has been accused of a criminal plot to seize and tamper with voting machines used in the 2020 election. He is also a Big Lie proponent and has said he would uphold the 1931 ban on abortion.



Voter Deadlines

September 15th:

Absentee ballots will start to be mailed out to voters.

October 24th: Voter registration must be completed if registering online, but you can register in-person up until November 8th.

Early Voting

Can only be done through an absentee ballot.

November 4th:

Last day to request an absentee ballot online or by mail is 5pm.

Absentee Voting

Ballots must be received by the election office by 8pm on November 8th. Mail them early or put them in the drop boxes at clerks' offices.

November 7th:

Last day to request an absent voter ballot in person at the clerk's office. You must request your absent voter ballot by 4pm and complete it in their office.

November 8th: Election day! In-person voting. Don't forget your ID and bring a friend to vote in person. Don't forget to sign the envelope on your absentee ballot.

