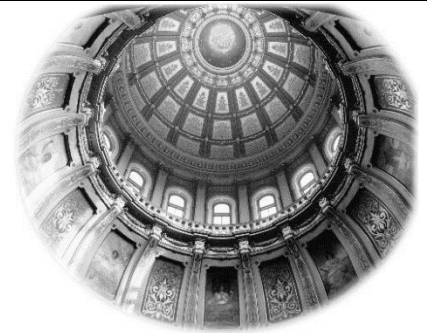


CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

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TROTT ANNOUNCEMENT OPENS DOOR TO 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT RACE

U.S. Rep. Dave Trott (R-Birmingham) announced that he will not seek re-election next year, leading numerous Republicans and Democrats to consider running for this 11th Congressional District seat, which leans Republican but could be up for grabs from either side.

The list of potential candidates keeps growing as it appears to be pulling candidates from other races, including Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) who withdrew from next year's Secretary of State race on Thursday, amidst speculation that he will seek the 11th Congressional District seat.

Democrats Haley Stevens and Fayrouz Saad have also said they are running. Rep. Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) and Dan Haberman, founder and owner of Byte and Mortar Offices in Troy, were also named potential Democratic candidates.

Other potential Republican candidates include Troy City Councilmember Ethan Baker, former U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio of Milford, Plymouth Township Supervisor Kurt Heise, Rep. Martin Howrylak (R-Troy), Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy), Rep. Michael McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills), and Rep. Jim Runestad (R-White Lake).

SCHUETTE ANNOUNCES RUN FOR GOVERNOR

Attorney General Bill Schuette announced his campaign for governor last Tuesday, kicking off his race at the Midland County Fairgrounds. Schuette, who said he has "an independent record of accomplishment," promised that if elected, he would cut state income taxes, push Congress to repeal the Affordable Care Act, and bring more and better-paying jobs to Michigan.

With his announcement, Schuette becomes the Republican front-runner in the race. Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Twp.) has also announced he is running, along with Dr. Jim Hines, who has never held office. Lt. Governor Brian Calley is also considering running, but said he will not decide until later in the year.

Schuette has already garnered national attention from President Donald Trump, who misspelled Schuette's name in a tweet that said "Attorney General Bill Shuette will be a fantastic governor for the great state of Michigan. I am bringing back your jobs and Bill will help." Trump later corrected his spelling.

Prior to becoming Attorney General, Schuette served in the U.S. House for three terms between 1985 and 1991, was director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture under Governor John Engler, and served in the Michigan Senate from 1995-2002. He also served as on the Michigan Court of Appeals for six years before he became attorney general in 2010.

SCHUITMAKER RUNNING FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) announced this week that she is running for the Republican nomination for Attorney General. Schuitmaker could potentially be up against House Speaker Tom Leonard (R-DeWitt).

In her announcement press release, Schuitmaker said her focus would be on “protecting what is important to Michigan families. As Attorney General, I will continue my service as a pro-life, pro-Second Amendment, law-and-order conservative who achieves results on life-touching issues.”

GOV. SNYDER SIGNS SUPERPAC BILLS INTO LAW

Gov. Rick Snyder signed a controversial plan passed by the Michigan Legislature this week allowing political candidates to raise unlimited amounts of money for super political action committees.

Critics say the plan could let candidates raise money for super PACs, which would then spend that money on indirect issue advocacy, or support the candidate who donated the money in the first place; and that the Michigan plan is even more lenient than the Federal Election Commission rule which limits federal candidates to raising \$5,000 for a super PAC.

Both Snyder and Republican lawmakers say the change cuts confusion in Michigan over a 2010 U.S. Supreme Court ruling by clearly giving the Department of State statutory authority to regulate contributions and expenditures, filing procedures and campaign contributions.

GLENN PUSHES TO OVERRULE MPSC ON LOCAL CLEARING REQUIREMENT

The chair of the Michigan House Energy Policy Committee, Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland) has promised to introduce bills to rework the Public Service Commission and how it operates after the state’s energy regulators ruled that companies that sell electricity in Michigan's power-choice market will have to generate electricity at their own power plants or buy power produced in the state by 2022.

Glenn, a vocal critic of the three-member PSC, has continued to argue with the PSC over whether or not a 2016 energy law rewrite allows the PSC to set a "local clearing requirement," -- requiring electricity providers obtain a certain percentage of their power supply from within the state.

Senate Energy and Technology Committee chair Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek), however, has publicly defended the PSC against the criticisms.

MM&A Briefs

Speakers attending the GOP conference on Mackinac Island

Several Republican big-hitters will be speaking at the Mackinac Republican Leadership Conference this weekend. The list includes U.S. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-California), U.S.

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, Fox News Channel commentator and former U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin, and Republican National Committee Chair Ronna Romney McDaniel. The conference runs Sept. 22-24.

Partnership model replaces School Reform Office

Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston said that the School Reform/Redesign Office is no longer an entity and has been replaced with a partnership model developed by Whiston that gives the schools time, and more resources, to improve. The SRO moved back into the Department of Education last month before it was dissolved.

Calendar of Important Events

Sept. 25 Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing) Lansing Mayoral Campaign Fundraiser
Location: 5:30 p.m., The Brunch House, Lansing

Rep. Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids) Fundraiser
Location: 5:30 p.m., Reagan Marketing & Design, Grand Rapids

Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Handy Township) Fundraiser
Location: 6 p.m., Howell Opera House, Howell

Sept. 26 Senate Republican Campaign Committee Fundraiser
Location: 8 a.m., Karoub Associates, Lansing

Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. (D-Detroit) Fundraiser
Location: 10:30 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing

University of Michigan Wolverine Caucus on Opioid Addiction
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing

Sen. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) Fundraiser
Location: 4:30 p.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, Lansing

Rep. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield) Fundraiser
Location: 5:30 p.m., The Exchange, Lansing

Sept. 27 Rep. Joe Bellino (R-Monroe) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing

Rep. John Bizon (R-Battle Creek) Senate campaign fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Grand Traverse Pie Company, Lansing

Rep. Donna Lasinski (D-Scio Twp.) Fundraiser
Location: 8 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing

- Sept. 27 Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) Fundraiser
Location: 8 a.m., Karoub Associates, Lansing
- Rep. Bill Sowerby (D-Clinton Twp.) Fundraiser
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Sept. 28 Rep. Hank Vaupel (R-Handy Township) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Rep. Jim Lower (R-Cedar Lake) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Grand Traverse Pie Company, Lansing
- Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo (D-Detroit) Fundraiser
Location: 10:30 a.m., Karoub Associates, Lansing
- Rep. Tim Sneller (D-Burton) Fundraiser
Location: 10:30 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- House Democratic Fund Fundraiser
Location: 5:30 p.m., Firebird Tavern, Detroit
- Sept. 29 Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) Golf Fundraiser
Location: 7 a.m., Grand Haven Golf Club, Grand Haven
- Oct. 3 Rep. Daire Rendon (R-Lake City) fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Karoub Associates, Lansing
- Rep. Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids) Fundraiser
Location: 8:30 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) Fundraiser
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet) Fundraiser
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Restaurant Association, Lansing
- Rep. Jason Sheppard (R-Temperance) Fundraiser
Location: 4:30 p.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Oct. 4 Rep. Jim Lilly (R-Park Township) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Rep. Steve Johnson (R-Wayland) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Karoub Associates, Lansing

- Oct. 4 Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) Fundraiser
Location: 8:30 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland) Fundraiser
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) Fundraiser
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Rep. Mike Webber (R-Rochester Hills) Fundraiser
Location: 4:30 p.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Michigan Senate Democratic Fundraiser
Location: 5 p.m., UrbanBeat Event Center, Lansing
- Oct. 5 Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing) Fundraiser
Location: 7:30 a.m., Michigan Municipal League, Lansing
- Rep. Scott Van Singel (R-Grant) Fundraiser
Location: 8 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Rep. Sheldon Neely (D-Flint) Fundraiser
Location: 10:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, Lansing
- Oct. 6 109th House District Candidate Sara Cambensy (D) Fundraiser
Location: 6 p.m., USW Local 4950 Ronn Hall, Negaunee
- Rep. Sylvia Santana (D-Detroit) Fundraiser
Location: 6 p.m., Ford Patio, Detroit