

CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 2022



McAlvey Merchant
& ASSOCIATES

DIXON-HERNANDEZ TICKET GETS GOP NOMINATION

Gubernatorial nominee Tudor Dixon and her pick for Lt. Governor, former state Rep. Shane Hernandez (R-Port Huron), received the Republican Party nomination on Aug. 27 at the party's convention.

They join Attorney General candidate Matt DePerno and Secretary of State candidate Kristina Karamo as the party's official nominees for the November election.

Republicans chose Hernandez by a paper ballot vote, with about 80% of the 2,000 delegates voting for him.

ORGANIZATIONS SUE TO GET VOTING AND ABORTION INITIATIVES ON THE BALLOT

Two groups pushing separate initiatives to amend Michigan's constitution filed challenges before the Supreme Court this week, hoping to compel the Board of State Canvassers to certify their proposals.

Promote the Vote filed a lawsuit on Thursday. The Promote the Vote amendment proposes establishing at least nine days of early voting in Michigan, codifying existing voter ID rules in the state constitution and allowing voters to request absentee ballots for all future elections among other changes. The initiative was not certified by the Board of State Canvassers due to concerns expressed by the Republican members of the board about alleged defects in its petition.

In its lawsuit, the group asks the Michigan Supreme Court to order canvassers to certify the Promote the Vote proposal for placement on the ballot by Sept. 8.

Reproductive Freedom for All also filed its lawsuit on Thursday, asking the Supreme Court to decide if its proposal to guarantee the right to abortion will be on the November ballot. The lawsuit asks the Supreme Court to force the Board of State Canvassers to place the proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot. The same Republican canvassers, Richard Houskamp and Tony Daunt, expressed concerns brought by an opposing group, Citizens to Support MI Women and Children, that spacing errors in their petition language make some sentences look like unreadable "gibberish." Lawyers for RFFA asked the Supreme Court to make a decision by next Wednesday, Sept. 7. The deadline for proposals to get on the ballot is Sept. 9.

GOVERNOR WHITMER HAS 26-1 SPENDING ADVANTAGE OVER DIXON

Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recently reported having \$14 million cash-on hand compared to her Republican opponent Tudor Dixon's reported \$523,930.

There have been concerns about Dixon being capable of raising the campaign funds necessary to compete with Whitmer, in both donations and spending. Dixon previously had struggled with competing on raising funds and spending.

Overall, Whitmer raised \$2.36 million during the post-primary reporting period, and a grand total of \$31.6 million over the entire 2022 campaign cycle, including \$92,346 in in-kind contributions this period and \$426,412 in-kind contributions throughout the cycle.

Dixon, in comparison, raised \$685,779 during the reporting period and \$2.3 million overall for the campaign cycle. She netted \$1,329 in in-kind contributions during the post-primary period and collected \$16,488 in-kind contributions throughout the cycle.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sept. 6** **Sen. Kim LaSata (R-Niles) for State Senate**
Location: 10 a.m., The Dune Club, 10600 Marquette Drive, New Buffalo
- 75th House District Candidate Penelope Tsernoglou (D) Fundraiser**
Location: 5 p.m., Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos
- Sept. 7** **Sen. Sylvia Santana (D-Detroit) for Senate**
Location: 8:30 a.m., Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers, 332 Townsend St.,
Lansing
- Sen. Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids) for Michigan**
Location: 11:30 a.m., Kelly's Downtown, 220 South Washington Sq., Lansing
- Sept. 8** **Rep. Mark Tisdell (R-Rochester Hills) Breakfast Reception**
Location: 7:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Sen. Jim Ananich (D-Flint) Future Fund**
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Sept. 9** **Rep. Jim Haadsma (D-Battle Creek) Backyard BBQ**
Location: 5 p.m., 260 Orchard Avenue, Battle Creek

- Sept. 12** **Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) Compete PAC 2**
Location: 9 a.m., Country Club of Jackson, 3135 Horton Road, Jackson
- Sen. Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D-East Lansing) for Michigan**
Location: 5:30 p.m., Home of Elizabeth and Curtis Hertel, 1860 Boxwood, East Lansing
- Sept. 13** **Sen. Rosemary Bayer (D-Keego Harbor) for Senate**
Location: 8:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Friends of Sen. Jon Bumstead (R-North Muskegon) Fundraiser**
Location: 12:30 p.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Rep. Roger Hauck (R-Mt. Pleasant) CTE**
Location: 5:30 p.m., Alma Brewing Company 208 East Superior St., Alma
- Sept. 14** **Rep. Rachel Hood (D-Grand Rapids) Home Stretch Fundraiser**
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Rep. Andrew Fink (R-Hillsdale) Lansing Leadership Event**
Location: 11:30 a.m., Michigan Realtors, 720 North Washington Ave., Lansing
- 92nd House District Candidate Jerry Neyer (R) Reception**
Location: 12 p.m., Bright Spark Strategies, 106 West Allegan, 2nd Floor, Lansing
- Rep. Angela Witwer (D-Delta Twp.) Cakes and Cocktails Fundraiser**
Location: 4:30 p.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing
- Sept. 15** **Rep. Matt Koleszar (D-Plymouth) Fall Fundraiser**
Location: 10:30 a.m., Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, Lansing