



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** Gary Naeyaert  
517-281-2690

## **GLEP Endorses 25 Incumbents in 2016 House Campaigns** *Leading education advocacy group makes first round of campaign endorsements*

**Lansing, MI** – The Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP) today announced endorsements in 25 re-election campaigns for the Michigan House of Representatives.

“We’re confident each of these incumbent legislators will continue to be forceful advocates for children in the Michigan House of Representatives, and we’re pleased to endorse and support their re-election campaigns,” said Gary Naeyaert, GLEP Executive Director.

Incumbents endorsed today by GLEP include the following:

- District #19: Rep. Laura Cox (Livonia)
- District #38: Rep. Kathy Crawford (Lyon Township)
- District #39: Rep. Klint Kesto (Commerce Township)
- District #42: Rep. Lana Theis (Brighton)
- District #44: Rep. Jim Runestad (Milford Township)
- District #45: Rep. Michael Webber (Rochester)
- District #47: Rep. Hank Vaupel (Howell)
- District #51: Rep. Joe Graves (Argentine Township)
- District #56: Rep. Jason Sheppard (Temperance)
- District #58: Rep. Eric Leutheuser (Hillsdale)
- District #59: Rep. Aaron Miller (Sturgis)
- District #61: Rep. Brandt Iden (Oshtemo)
- District #63: Rep. David Maturen (Brady Township)
- District #71: Rep. Tom Barrett (Charlotte)
- District #73: Rep. Chris Afendoulis (Grand Rapids Township)
- District #74: Rep. Rob VerHeulen (Walker)
- District #80: Rep. Mary Whiteford (Casco Township)
- District #81: Rep. Dan Lauwers (Brockway Township)
- District #90: Rep. Daniela Garcia (Holland)
- District #91: Rep. Holly Hughes (White River Township)
- District #93: Rep. Tom Leonard (DeWitt Township)
- District #94: Rep. Tim Kelly (Saginaw Township)
- District #98: Rep. Gary Glenn (Midland)
- District #105: Rep. Triston Cole (Mancelona)
- District #107: Rep. Lee Chatfield (Levering)

(more)

***Supporting quality choices in public education.***



*GLEP Endorsement Release  
June 21, 2016 | Page 2 of 2*

“Political elections are hard fought contests. Now is the time for every voter to take a good look at their past records and positions on key issues and make the important decisions about which candidates to support. We’re very proud to endorse these outstanding incumbents in these races,” said Beth DeShone, GLEP Advocacy Director.

GLEP’s endorsement process includes an examination of past voting records, personal interviews and results from the organization’s extensive candidate questionnaire. It should be noted that priority issues for GLEP include school choice and early literacy, while there are a number of education policy issues for which endorsed candidates may hold a variety of positions, including K-12 funding, curriculum standards, student assessments, etc.

The organization will make additional endorsements in the weeks ahead.

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***Supporting quality choices in public education.***