

Name: Terry J. Sabo Phone: (231)740-2724
Office Sought: State Representative District 92 Party: Democrat
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1. Have you ever been appointed or elected to public office? Yes
If yes, what office?

Ravenna Township Board of Review (Appointed 2003-2006)
Muskegon County Road Commission (Appointed 2011-2012)
Muskegon County Commissioner (Elected 2012 and 2014) (Chair 2015-2016)
State Representative District 92 (Elected 2016 and 2018)

2. Have you ever owned a business or has someone in your family owned a business? If yes, please describe.

No, other than owning/operating our small family farm from 1999-2006.

3. Briefly describe the qualifications and experience you possess that make you the best candidate for this office.

I believe my combination of real-life experiences and political experience make for the best qualifications for my re-election to this office. Being a life-long resident of Muskegon County, born and raised in rural Ravenna's agricultural environment, and working for over 25 years as a police officer and firefighter primarily in urban Muskegon Heights gives me a unique perspective of our area values. Those experiences have me understand better the importance of working across party lines to benefit my district's people and businesses, but at the same time work to have a stronger voice within my own Democratic Party caucus for issues involving my community.

4. What do you believe should be the role of government in today's world?

Government plays an important role and should be prepared to step in to the private sector when/if needed. While many want to see government reduced, it is an important function of our society and should not be diminished. There is a fine line when it comes to the overall role of government which makes it a necessity to build a good relationship with the private sector. That bridge is needed and unfortunately, is not always used in today's world.

5. What do you consider to be the top three (3) issues facing Muskegon County businesses today and how can the State government address them?

- A. COVID-19 Economic Crisis Recovery (The health crisis created an economic crisis that is ongoing and will take cooperation between government and the private sector to help our small businesses remain sustainable. This and the ongoing need to have a skilled workforce available to our area employers is of utmost importance)
- B. Infrastructure (An aging road and underground infrastructure needs attention and funding to keep up with area development)
- C. Revenue Sharing to local units of government (This may not seem like a business issue, but it is. Local units of government need to be properly funded to ensure that all services can be provided to current businesses and for future business development)

6. Name one thing that you think is going right in Muskegon County and one thing that you think could be changed right away.

The Greater Muskegon area understands that when we work together we can have positive results for our entire community. The development of downtown Muskegon and the many development projects going on across our county has not gone unnoticed across our state which has led me to label the Muskegon area as the fastest growing community in Michigan.

More attention and work needs to be done to address our growing wage disparity issues and the importance of using our local businesses to keep our money in our own community.

7. In what areas can you make the most difference as a State elected official?

Using my real-life experiences and political experience helps me make a difference in representing the district and all of Muskegon County. It's what makes me the best candidate and makes me effective overall. That experience has clearly shown me that we in Muskegon County are often left out of the loop in this state when comparing ourselves to the east side of Michigan. With that in mind, it makes me especially proud to have been a part of seeing well over \$25 million come back to our area for various projects since I have been in the state legislature. I have always had the willingness to work across party lines, having the respect of those on the other side of the aisle, and demeanor to work to resolve issues has assisted me in helping businesses and constituents navigate our county and state governments.

8. How will you leverage and utilize the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce as a resource should you be elected?

Just as I have for the entire time I have been in appointed/elected office, I will continue to be an open resource for the Chamber and would expect that I can use the Chamber for my general connection to the area business world. We are better when we work together.

9. If elected, what are your top 3 priorities?

- A. Continue to keep the needs of the 92nd House District at the forefront of my decisions.
- B. Ensure that Greater Muskegon continues to be recognized across our state
- C. Continue to build relationships across Michigan, including here at home, to better address the issues that matter most to us

10. Is there anything else you want to add?

I am thankful for the bipartisan support I have received over the years as an elected official. So much of my job is about relationship building and I am proud of my record of representing the people of our area. I look forward to continuing to work for and with our community.

Send completed questionnaires to:
Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce
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