

Michigan US Senate 2026

THE ISSUES

ABDUL
EL-SAYED

DEMOCRAT

MIKE
ROGERS

REPUBLICAN

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ABORTION Ban or legal?	Legal. Would “fight to codify the rights once protected by Roe v. Wade into federal law.” Would sponsor the Women’s Health Protection Act, which protecting access to abortion. Supports funding Planned Parenthood. Would pass a bill to ensure abortion coverage in federal health plans.	Mixed. “I’m a pro-life guy, I’ve voted pro-life.” Supported the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Opposes a full national ban on abortion; says states should decide. “I will 100% respect Michiganders’ decision on the abortion issue.”
CLIMATE CHANGE Should climate change be a top priority?	Yes. “The climate crisis is not a future threat. It’s here.” Would “ fight for a pathway to 100% renewable energy.” Opposes “oil and gas dependence.” Supports “America’s meaningful engagement in...the Paris [Climate] Agreement.”	No. Doesn’t want renewable energy if it’s “not good common sense.” Says electric vehicle mandates “are destroying Michigan’s auto industry.” Says renewable energy mandates are “costing us all pretty dearly.”
CRIMINAL JUSTICE How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?	Calls for “law enforcement recruitment, retention, and retirement funding.” Opposes cash bail. Supports the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act and investing in community violence-prevention programs. In 2020-2021 advocated “reductions in police budgets” with “more investment in housing, childcare, food assistance, and income support.”	“I’ll fight to restore law and order to our streets.” Supports “keeping deadly drugs out of our communities...protecting victims, and locking up the bad guys.” Calls for giving law enforcement “the resources they need to do the job.” Would “ back the blue all the way.” Citing violence in Detroit, urged the city’s mayor to request that President Trump send in the National Guard.
ECONOMY Cut or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?	Mostly increase. Would invest in small businesses in Detroit. “We need to massively invest in building new housing” and “streamline local regulations.” Would “ redirect federal farm subsidies away from corporate agribusiness and toward the family farmers.” Would enforce antitrust policies, break up corporate monopolies.	Mostly decrease. “We can stop the spending in Washington that drove up prices.” Says “excessive regulation” drives up housing prices. “Less regulation means better opportunity in business.” Would incentivize home builders with tax credits to build homes for families. Supports bringing “high-end manufacturing” jobs back to Michigan.
EDUCATION Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools?	No. Opposes privatizing “public education through vouchers” and moving “public money into private pockets.” In 2018 said would propose a bill to outlaw for-profit charters.	Yes. Says “it’s unfortunate” that Michigan has not opted in to a federal tax credit program to fund private school scholarships. “We have to have choice for our kids.” In 2011 voted to use federal funding for D.C. private schools.
ENVIRONMENT Loosen or tighten environmental rules?	Tighten. Would “ fight to hold corporate polluters fully accountable.” Supports “shutting down Line 5,” a 645-mile oil and natural gas pipeline running through Michigan. Says it puts the “Great Lakes at risk .” Data centers need “terms of engagement” that protect water resources & the environment.	Mixed. Said Line 5 is essential; supports removing the pipeline from under Lake Michigan to not risk “contamination of freshwater.” Supports a ban on drilling in the Great Lakes to make sure “they remain clean and safe.” In 2014 voted to limit the EPA enforcement of the Clean Water Act. Calls for “local control” of data centers and “closed water systems.”

ISSUES	EL-SAYED (D)	ROGERS (R)
GUN LAWS Loosen or tighten gun laws?	Tighten. “The second amendment never meant any gun for anyone anywhere at any time.” Is “ proud to be on the side of gun safety.” In 2018 supported red flag laws ; would “ go further ” to ban “guns that are meant for a theatre of war.”	Mixed. “ Banning guns isn’t going to do it [curb violence].” Calls for dealing with “root causes” like mental illness. Supports background checks and enforcing “the gun laws that we have.”
HEALTHCARE Increase or decrease government support for healthcare?	Increase. Would “pass Medicare for All” and “ abolish medical debt.” Supports “[breaking] up big healthcare.” “I will push to immediately repeal Medicaid and ACA subsidy cuts from the ‘One Big Beautiful Bill’ Act.” Would “invest in federally qualified health centers and public clinics and hospitals.”	Mostly decrease. Would create a health care plan to “embrace the freedom of the free market.” Says federal funded insurance plans do not “work very well.” Opposes healthcare spending cuts to pay for a defense spending bill; called it “a bridge too far.” In 2010, voted against the Affordable Care Act ; in 2013 voted to repeal it.
IMMIGRATION How to handle immigration?	“I believe in a safe and secure border and a clear pathway to citizenship.” Supports the Dream Act, which provides a pathway to permanent residence for Dreamers and DACA holders. “We must fully fund asylum and refugee programs.” Supports “protecting birthright citizenship” and “ abolishing ICE.” Seeks “immigration enforcement but under a new organizational structure.”	Calls for investing in “border security to keep violent criminals, deadly drugs, and terrorist cartels out.” Supports finishing the border wall and reinstating “the Remain in Mexico policy.” Opposes sanctuary cities. Supports tracking down criminals over mass deportations. Supports ICE going “after these criminals who are...making our communities less safe.”
IRAN WAR Support the war in Iran?	No. “I oppose the illegal and unjustifiable war in Iran and demand an immediate end to the hostilities.” Opposes “a nuclear-armed Iran.” Seeks “diplomatic means of achieving that goal.”	Yes. “Iran is an imminent threat to our country—and must not have a nuclear weapon.” “I don’t mind giving the president authority to continue” it. “I’d like [it] to come to a quick conclusion.”
LABOR Make it easier or harder for unions to organize workers?	Easier. “I believe that every worker deserves the right to join a union and to earn a fair wage.” Would pass the PRO Act, which would protect organizing rights. Says right to work, which allows employees in a unionized workplace to not pay union dues, should be illegal .	Mixed. “Autoworkers...Teamsters... we’ve got your back.” Expressed support for a 2023 UAW strike in Michigan. In 2014 voted to limit federal prevailing wage laws on major construction projects. In 2013 voted to limit National Labor Relations Board action.
LGBTQ RIGHTS Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Expand. “I stand with the LGBTQ+ community in their struggle for equal rights and dignity.” Would guarantee the civil rights to healthcare...for LGBTQ folks.” Opposed elimination of the 988 lifeline service targeted at LGBTQ+ youth.	Mixed. Opposed gay marriage; when the Supreme Court legalized it in 2015, said “I have [evolved].” In 2023 said it was the law. People should not be evicted or fired from their jobs for being LGBTQ. Opposes trans athletes in women’s sports.
MINIMUM WAGE Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25 per hour?	Yes. “We need to stand up to increase wages.” Supports “raising the minimum salary for teachers to at least \$60,000/year.” In 2018 said he would raise the state’s minimum to \$15 an hour.	No recent position found. In 2007 voted against raising the federal minimum to \$7.25 per hour.
TAXES Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	Raise. “It is high past time for us to tax billionaires their wealth.” Would “ fight against corporate tax breaks” and raise “the marginal tax rate on earnings over \$1 million and a billionaire tax on wealth over \$1 billion.”	Lower. Supports the One Big Beautiful Bill, which extends the largest one-time cut in the corporate tax rate. “There’s no tax cut I don’t like.” Would consider a lower corporate tax to keep companies in the US.
VOTING RULES Make voting harder or easier?	Easier. “I believe in making voting easier.” Opposes voter ID and the SAVE Act, which requires anyone registering to vote in a federal election to provide proof of U.S. citizenship. Would pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act. Supports making election day a holiday and “no-reason absentee and early in-person voting.”	Harder. Supports voter ID. Would “ pass the SAVE Act.” “We want it to be easier to vote and harder to cheat.” About absentee voting and mail-in ballots, said “the more they expand the ways you can vote, I do worry” about ensuring if “a vote is from a certain person.”

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