



# CAIR-MI Presidential Candidates Summary 2012 Election

## Contact Information:

Address:  
21700 Northwestern HWY  
Suite 815 Southfield, MI 48075  
Phone: 248-559-CAIR  
Email: [info@cairmichigan.org](mailto:info@cairmichigan.org)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/CAIR-Michigan/135117685024>  
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/CAIRMI>  
Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/70013209@N03/sets/>  
YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/michigancair>

# 2012 Presidential Candidates Summary

## Candidate:



**Barack Obama (Democratic Party)**

**Comments:** While President Obama has repeatedly expressed support for American-Muslims, he has also often sought to distance himself from the community. Mr. Obama has pledged to ban racial profiling although racial and religious profiling have not decreased under his administration. On immigration, Mr. Obama signed an executive order earlier this year granting deportation waivers for “DREAMers,” although his administration deported over 1.1 million undocumented immigrants, more than any other president since the 1950s. On human rights, although Mr. Obama ended the usage of torture and extraordinary rendition, he also signed the NDAA, which authorized the extra-judicial assassination of U.S. Citizens, and failed to close the Guantanamo Bay detention camp (though this was due to Congressional opposition). He signed into law every reauthorization and extension of the PATRIOT Act. Finally, although he has often taken a more peaceful, diplomatic approach to foreign relations than President Bush, he has also greatly expanded the usage of unmanned drones in foreign nations.

## Candidate:



**Mitt Romney (Republican Party)**

**Comments:** Mitt Romney's position on certain issues varies, in part because of his transition from a liberal Governor of Massachusetts to a conservative presidential candidate. He is known to contradict himself, or not take a position on issues. For instance, he stated Muslims are peaceful people who deserve respect while he supported wiretapping mosques and conducting surveillance on foreign students while he was Governor. He stated, “Labor unions play an important role in our society” in one breathe, and denounces them in the next. When asked about whether he supports Arizona's harsh immigration law, SB 1070, he has dodged the question. Mr. Romney generally takes a conservative stance on immigration, opposing amnesty for undocumented immigrants. On foreign policy and human rights issues, Romney's positions are much clearer. He supports indefinite detention, extraordinary rendition, assassinations, torture, and drone strikes. Generally, Romney favors an aggressive and militaristic approach to foreign relations, rather than a more diplomatic and peaceful approach. He appointed Walid Phares, an officer in a Maronite militia (which has been accused of committing atrocities during Lebanon's civil war), as an adviser on the Middle East. He is anti-Palestine. He said Palestinians were less economically successful compared to the Israelis because of their culture. Finally, as Governor he supported the reinstatement of the death penalty.

**Candidate:**



**Virgil Goode (Constitution Party)**

**Comments:** Virgil Goode is an Islamophobe who believes “radical Muslims” want to take over the world. He said the election of the first Muslim Congressman, Keith Ellison, posed a threat to American values. He not only opposes granting amnesty to undocumented immigrants, but believes the U.S. must, “Utilize troops, fences, and other measures to stop the invasion from Mexico.” Goode wants to lessen legal immigration. He said legal immigrants, “Take jobs from American citizens.” As a Congressman, he opposed anti-discrimination legislation and supported anti-union legislation. He believes the U.S. should not have gone to war with Iraq and U.S. troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan. He said the U.S. should decrease, “Expenditures to the UN, the World Bank, the IMF, and to foreign nations”, and the International Criminal Court's decisions should be invalid in the U.S. Generally, Goode opposes any significant U.S. involvement in world affairs. On human rights, he supports enhanced interrogation techniques, and the removal of legal prohibitions on the U.S. Army and the CIA concerning the assassination of foreign enemies. At the same time, he supports repealing the NDAA due to its provisions that allow for the indefinite detention of U.S. citizens. He voted for the Patriot Act, but later said it was a mistake and supported a partial repeal of it. Finally, on labor, he voted to increase the federal minimum wage in 2007, but voted against collective bargaining for public safety officers.

**Candidate:**



**Jill Stein (Green Party)**

**Comments:** Jill Stein opposes the NDAA and the indefinite detention without trial of U.S. citizens. Stein opposes racist violence and believes racism is a major factor in American society. She supports immigration, and believes undocumented immigrants currently in the U.S. should be given the chance to become citizens. She opposes “the systemic practice of detention and deportation of immigrant women, men, and children” and “the militarization of our borders.” She opposes the death penalty, which she said is barbaric. She opposes the Patriot Act and SOPA. On labor, she supports unions and has proposed an “Economic Bill of Rights” that would include provisions for a living wage and a right to unionize. She is an environmentalist, and wants to institute a Green New Deal, “An emergency jobs creation plan that really addresses the crisis in our economy, in unemployment, and likewise, in the climate.” Finally, on foreign policy, Stein opposed the Iraq War, wants to withdraw all U.S. forces from Afghanistan, opposes the usage of drone strikes, and opposes preemptive wars. She advocates for a foreign policy which respects international law, and believes the U.S. should have a multilateral foreign policy, rather than acting as, “The unilateral policemen of the world enforcing our own interest.” Stein opposes the current U.S. policies concerning Israel and Palestine. She said they, “Must be revised to make international law, peace and human rights for all people, no matter their religion or nationality, the central priorities.” Stein has formulated a progressive platform. If she is elected into office, she may face difficulty implementing some of her policies.

## Candidate:



**Gary Johnson (Libertarian Party)**

**Comments:** As a libertarian, Johnson generally supports limited government, arguing that government should not interfere too much in the citizens' lives or in foreign affairs. He generally supports civil rights protections, and has explicitly come out against the TSA's racial profiling. On immigration, Johnson believes the overall immigration process should be streamlined to make it easier for people to get work visas. He supports the DREAM Act and a "two year grace period" where undocumented immigrants can obtain work visas. On human rights, he opposes torture and indefinite detention, arguing that the government must respect habeas corpus. He supports waging war for humanitarian reasons, and said, "We should resort to military action as the last option and only as provided in the Constitution." He has criticized drone strikes. He said he wishes to, "Leave all options on the table." He opposes the death penalty, the Patriot Act, and SOPA. On labor, he opposes child labor laws, supports right-to-work laws, and, while Governor, vetoed a bill to raise the minimum wage.

**Note:** Gary Johnson was disqualified from running as the Libertarian presidential candidate in Michigan after missing a deadline to withdraw from the Republican primary by 3 minutes. He is currently suing the Michigan Secretary of State to get on the Michigan ballot as the Libertarian Party's candidate for the 2012 presidential election. He may choose to run as an Independent in Michigan if the lawsuit is not concluded before the time to run as a libertarian candidate.

### **Campaign Websites:**

Barack Obama (Democratic Party) -  
<http://www.barackobama.com>

Mitt Romney (Republican Party) -  
<http://www.mittromney.com/>

Virgil Goode (Constitution Party) -  
<http://www.goodeforpresident2012.com/>

Gary Johnson (Libertarian Party) -  
<http://www.garyjohnson2012.com/>

Jill Stein (Green Party) -  
<http://www.jillstein.org/>

### **Additional resources:**

ACLU's Candidate Report Card on Civil Liberties  
<http://www.aclulibertywatch.org/ALWCandidateReportCard.pdf>

CAIR's 2012 Presidential Voter Guide  
<http://www.cair.com/portals/0/pdf/Presidential-Voter-Guide-Final.pdf>

On the Issues:  
<http://www.ontheissues.org/default.htm>

Project Vote Smart  
<http://votesmart.org/>



# CAIR-MI Federal Legislative Scorecard

## 112th Congress

### Ratings – House of Representatives

Democrats are highlighted in **BLUE**  
 Republicans are highlighted in **RED**

#### Domestic Policy Issues

District	Representative	Political Party	%	Final Grade
1	Dan Benishek	R	17.00%	F
2	Bill Huizenga	R	16.00%	F
3	Justin Amash	R	72.00%	B
4	David Camp	R	17.00%	F
5	Dale Kildee	D	91.00%	A
6	Frederick Upton	R	17.00%	F
7	Timothy Walberg	R	18.00%	F +
8	Michael Rogers	R	13.00%	F
9	Gary Peters	D	73.00%	B
10	Candice Miller	R	17.00%	F
11	Thaddeus McCotter	R	19.00%	F+
12	Sander Levin	D	73.00%	B
13	Hansen Clarke	D	88.00%	A
14	John Conyers	D	91.00%	A
15	John Dingell	D	85.00%	B +

#### Foreign Policy Issues

District	Representative	Political Party	%	Final Grade
1	Dan Benishek	R	3.00%	F
2	Bill Huizenga	R	0.00%	F-
3	Justin Amash	R	88.00%	A
4	David Camp	R	0.00%	F-
5	Dale Kildee	D	38.00%	D+
6	Frederick Upton	R	0.00%	F-
7	Timothy Walberg	R	0.00%	F-
8	Michael Rogers	R	0.00%	F-
9	Gary Peters	D	47.00%	C
10	Candice Miller	R	0.00%	F-
11	Thaddeus McCotter	R	0.00%	F-
12	Sander Levin	D	22.00%	D-
13	Hansen Clarke	D	84.00%	A
14	John Conyers	D	91.00%	A
15	John Dingell	D	50.00%	C

#### Overall Grades

District	Representative	Overall Grade
1	Dan Benishek	F
2	Bill Huizenga	F
3	Justin Amash	A-
4	David Camp	F
5	Dale Kildee	B-
6	Frederick Upton	F
7	Timothy Walberg	F
8	Michael Rogers	F
9	Gary Peters	B-
10	Candice Miller	F
11	Thaddeus McCotter	F
12	Sander Levin	D
13	Hansen Clarke	A
14	John Conyers	A
15	John Dingell	B

### Ratings - Senate

#### Domestic Policy Issues

Senator	Political Party	%	Final Grade
Debbie Stabenow	D	31.00%	D
Carl Levin	D	52.00%	C

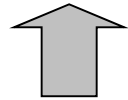
#### Foreign Policy Issues

Senator	Political Party	%	Final Grade
Debbie Stabenow	D	0.00%	F-
Carl Levin	D	0.00%	F-

#### Overall Grades

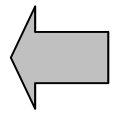
Senator	Political Party	Overall Grade
Debbie Stabenow	D	F
Carl Levin	D	D

Politician Information																	
District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade
1	Timothy Bledsoe	A+	21	Dian Slavens	A	41	Martin Knollenberg	F	61	Margaret O'Brien	F	81	Jud Gilbert	F	101	Ray Franz	F
2	Lisa Howze	A+	22	Douglas Geiss	A	42	Harold Haugh	A	62	Kate Segal	A+	82	Kevin Daley	F	102	Phillip Potvin	F
3	Alberta Tinsley Talabi	A+	23	Pat Somerville	F	43	Gail Haines	F	63	James Bolger	F	83	Paul Muxlow	F	103	Bruce Rendon	F
4	Maureen Stapleton	A+	24	Anthony Forlini	F	44	Eileen Kowall	F	64	Earl Poleski	F-	84	Kurt Damrow	F-	104	Wayne Schmidt	F
5	John Olumba	A+	25	Jonathan Switalski	A+	45	Tom McMillin	F	65	Mike Shirkey	F-	85	Ben Glardon	F	105	Greg MacMaster	F
6	Fred Durhal, Jr.	A+	26	Jim Townsend	A+	46	Bradford Jacobsen	F	66	William Rogers	F-	86	Lisa Lyons	F	106	Peter Pettalia	F
7	Jimmy Womack	A	27	Ellen Lipton	A+	47	Cindy Denby	F	67	Barbara Byrum	A+	87	Mike Callton	F	107	Frank Foster	F
8	Thomas Stallworth III	A+	28	Lesia Liss	A	48	Richard Hammel	A	68	Joan Bauer	A+	88	Bob Genetski	F	108	Ed McBroom	F
9	Shanelle Jackson	A	29	Tim Greimel	N/A	49	Jim Ananich	A+	69	Mark Meadows	A	89	Amanda Price	F-	109	Steven Lindberg	F
10	Harvey Santana	A+	30	Jeff Farrington	F	50	Charles Smiley	A	70	Rick Outman	F	90	Joseph Haveman	F-	110	Matt Huuki	F
11	David Nathan	A+	31	Marilyn Lane	A+	51	Joseph Graves	N/A	71	Deb Shaughnessy	F	91	Holly Hughes	F			
12	Rashida Tlaib	A+	32	Andrea LaFontaine	F	52	Mark Ouimet	F	72	Ken Yonker	F	92	Marcia Hovey-Wright	A			
13	Andrew James Kandrevas	A+	33	Ken Goike	F	53	Jeff Irwin	A+	73	Peter MacGregor	F	93	Paul Opsommer	F			
14	Paul Clemente	A+	34	Woodrow Stanley	A+	54	David Rutledge	A+	74	David Agema	F-	94	Kenneth Horn	F			
15	George Darany	A	35	Rudy Hobbs	A+	55	Rick Olson	F	75	Brandon Dillon	A+	95	Stacy Oakes	A			
16	Bob Constan	A+	36	Peter Lund	F	56	Dale Zorn	D	76	Roy Schmidt	A	96	Charles Brunner	A			
17	Phil Cavanagh	A+	37	Vicki Barnett	A	57	Nancy Jenkins	F	77	Thomas Hooker	F	97	Joel Johnson	F			
18	Richard LeBlanc	A	38	Hugh Crawford	F	58	Kenneth Kurtz	F	78	Sharon Tyler	F	98	Jim Stamas	F			
19	John Walsh	B+	39	Lisa Brown	A+	59	Matt Lori	F	79	Al Pscholka	F	99	Kevin Cotter	F			
20	Kurt Heise	D	40	Chuck Moss	F	60	Sean McCann	A+	80	Aric Nesbitt	F-	100	Jon Bumstead	F			



**State House of Representatives Ratings:**

Politician Information											
District	State Senator	Final Grade	District	State Senator	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade	District	State Representative	Final Grade
1	Coleman Young	A	11	Jack Brandenburg	F	21	John Proos	F-	31	Mike Green	F
2	Bert Johnson	A+	12	Jim Marleau	F	22	Joe Hune	F	32	Roger Kahn	F
3	Morris Hood	A	13	John Pappageorge	F	23	Gretchen Whitmer	A	33	Judy Emmons	F
4	Virgil Smith	A	14	Vincent Gregory	A	24	Rick Jones	D	34	Goeff Hansen	F
5	Tupac Hunter	A	15	Mike Kowall	F	25	Phil Pavlov	F	35	Darwin Booher	F
6	Glenn Anderson	B	16	Bruce Caswell	D	26	David Robertson	F	36	John Moolenaar	F
7	Patrick Colbeck	F	17	Randy Richardville	F	27	John Gleason	B	37	Howard Walker	F
8	Hoon-Yung Hopgood	A	18	Rebekah Warren	A+	28	Mark Jansen	F-	38	Tom Casperson	C-
9	Steven Bieda	A	19	Michael Nofs	D	29	Dave Hildenbrand	F			
10	Tory Rocca	D	20	Tonya Schuitmaker	F	30	Arlan Meekhof	F			



**State Senate Ratings:**



Democrats are highlighted in BLUE  
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