2021-22
101st Michigan Legislature
Meet the House Newcomers

Kelley Cawthorne
SHAPING CHANGE
By the Numbers

- 28 New House members for 25% turnover
- 12 Republicans
- 16 Democrats
- 4 are related to former or current State Legislators
  - 1 is the daughter of a former State Legislator
  - 1 is the son of a current State Legislator
  - 1 is the son of a former Lt. Governor
  - 1 is the brother of a former State Legislator
- 3 previously ran for House and lost
- 2 Beat Sitting Incumbents
- 19 Men
- 9 Women

- 4 African Americans
- 1 Sikh-American
- 2 Indian Americans
- 15 Former or Currently Elected Local Government Officials, including:
  - 6 County Commissioners
  - 6 City Council Members
  - 3 City Commissioners
- 1 Teachers/Educators
- 3 Attorneys
  - 1 commissioner-at-large of the State Bar of Michigan
- 2 with Law Enforcement Backgrounds
- 8 Small Business Owner’s
- 2 Have served or are serving in the Military
# House Leadership

## Republican Caucus (58)

- **Speaker of the House**
  Rep. Jason Wentworth (Clare)

- **Majority Floor Leader**
  Rep. Ben Frederick (Owosso)

- **Speaker Pro Tempore**
  Rep. Pamela Hornberger (Chesterfield)

- **Associate Speaker Pro Tempore**
  Rep. Sarah Lightner (Springport)
  Rep. Brad Paquette (Niles)

- **Assistant Majority Floor Leader**
  Rep. Julie Calley (Portland)
  Rep. Ann Bollin (Brighton)

- **Majority Caucus Whip**
  Rep. Andrea Schroeder (Independence Twp.)

- **Deputy Majority Caucus Whip**
  Rep. Jack O’Malley (Lake Ann)

- **Majority Caucus Chair**
  Rep. Matt Hall (Emmett Twp.)

- **Majority Caucus Vice Chair**
  Rep.-Elect Andrew Beeler (Fort Gratiot)

## Democratic Caucus (52)

- **Minority Leader**
  Rep. Donna Lasinski (Scio Twp.)

- **Minority Floor Leader**
  Rep. Yousef Rabhi (Ann Arbor)
# 2021-22 Michigan House of Representatives

## Unofficial Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Democrats (62)</th>
<th>Republicans (65)</th>
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<td>7th. Takema Scott (Garnett)</td>
<td>36th Rep. Demon</td>
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<td>8th. Stephanie Young (Oyster-Dagnogo)</td>
<td>42nd Rep. Sulin</td>
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<td>10th. Mary Cunnaghan (Love)</td>
<td>44th. Rep. Mudrow</td>
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<td>13th. Tula Libbeller (Libbeller)</td>
<td>48th. David Martin (Kennedy)</td>
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<td>15th. Rep. Hammoud</td>
<td>55th T.C. Clamark (Shippard)</td>
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<td>22nd. Richard Swiderski (Chilca)</td>
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<td>27th. Regina Weas (Willenber)</td>
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<td>33rd. Samantha Steckloff (Craig)</td>
<td>88th. Rep. Winters</td>
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<td>52nd. Rep. A. Wafer (Guerra)</td>
<td>107th. John Damucio (Cisfeld)</td>
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**Key:** Blue = currently Democratic. Red = currently Republican. Non-incumbents are in italics. Members leaving office at the end of 2020 and/or incumbent currently in the seat are in parentheses. # = incumbent lost primary or general election. DATESTAMP: 11/09. Copyrighet 2020 by Kelley Cawthorne.

**House Analysis:** Republicans will maintain control of the Michigan House of Representatives by a 59-52 margin in 2021, a net change of zero (0) seats. Two (2) Democratic incumbents, Rep. Sheryl Kennedy (D-Davison) and Rep. Brian Elder (D-Oak City) lost, but Democrats picked up two (2) open Republican seats. This is the sixth straight election that the GOP has won the Michigan House. Shifting demographics allowed Democrats to pick up the two (2) seats in Kalamazoo County and southern Oakland County, but those shifting demographics also weakened their base in Ingham and western Genesee County. Republicans maintained their hold on many contested Calhoun County seats, as well as northern Michigan, Macomb County, and Monroe County. The Michigan House of Representatives will have 39 new members in 2021, for a turnover of 59%. Current House Democratic Leader Christine Craig is Term-Limited and will not be returning next term. Rep. Donna Lasinski (D-Dearborn) is expected to become the new Democratic leader. Current Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield (R-LeVernag) is Term-Limited and will not be returning as well. Rep. Jason Wentworth (R-Clare) is expected to assume that post in 2021.

Occupation: Author; Economic Development

District: 96.9% Democratic Base. Mr. Thanedar received 92.80% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Wayne County and includes part of the City of Detroit.

Thanedar is a prime example of the “American Dream”. After gaining U.S. citizenship in 1988, Thanedar purchased a small business in 1990 comprised of three employees. Today, that company employs 450 people and is a pharmaceutical and international chemical research conglomerate. He sold the company prior to unsuccessfully running for Governor in 2018 receiving 17% of the primary vote.

Thanedar holds a PhD from the University of Akron, and a Master of Science in Chemistry from the University of Bombay.
4th District
Abraham Aiyash (D-Detroit)

Aiyash was born in Michigan and made history as the youngest member of the city commission in Hamtramck. He is the son of a UAW auto worker whose parents emigrated from Yemen. Aiyash was a district organizer for President Barack Obama’s campaign in 2008. He co-founded a non-profit which advocates for early childhood literacy in the working-class communities of Flint and Detroit.

Aiyash holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy from the College of James Madison at Michigan State University.

- Occupation: Community Organizer; Local Government; Activist
- District: 94.37% Democratic Base. Mr. Aiyash received 89.76% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Wayne County, including the City of Hamtramck and part of the City of Detroit.
7th District
Helena Scott (D-Detroit)

Born and raised in the City of Detroit, Scott was hired as the Community Liaison for Rep. LaTanya Garrett in 2019. Prior to that role, Scott helped organize a unity coalition for the Southeast Michigan Jobs with Justice (SEMJwJ), comprised of 70 union labor and faith-based organizations. She helped organize multiple ballot initiatives and is well recognized within her community.

Scott holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Marygrove College.

- Replaces Term-Limited Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit).
- Occupation: Community Organizer; State Legislative Staff
- District: 97.74% Democratic Base. Ms. Scott received 93.02% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Wayne County, including parts of the City of Detroit and Highland Park.
Stephanie Young (D-Detroit)

- Occupation: Local Government; Activist
- District: 96.83% Democratic Base. Ms. Young received 96.73% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Wayne County, including the cities of Ecorse and River Rouge and part of the City of Detroit.

From Detroit’s westside, Young has been a strong advocate for the city and is currently the executive director of the Community Education Commission in Detroit. She previously worked for Mayor Mike Duggan and unsuccessfully ran for the 10th House district in 2006 and the 8th House district in 2002.

Young holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy from the College of James Madison at Michigan State University.
10th District
Mary Cavanagh (D-Redford Twp.)

The daughter of former Representative and Wayne County Commissioner Phil Cavanagh, Mary currently works for New Start Construction. She unsuccessfully ran for the 10th House district in 2018 and has been in public service for over 20 years. Cavanagh previously worked as a Get-Out-The-Vote initiator and is a member of the AFL-CIO Advocates.

Cavanagh is a graduate of Wayne State University.

- Occupation: Construction Management; Activist
- District: 85.12% Democratic Base. Ms. Cavanagh received 84.68% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Wayne County, including Redford Township and the City of Detroit.
13th District
Tullio Liberati
(D-Allen Park)

The Brother of Rep. Frank Liberati, Tullio is the founder of Liberati & Son’s Construction. He has been a licensed residential contractor for over 20 years. Liberati previously worked on campaigns for his brother and former Allen Park Councilman David Babbage. He is an active member of St. Francis Cabrini Church and has coached multiple sports teams for his two sons.

Liberati studied Biology at Wayne State University.
21st District
Ranjeev Puri
(D-Canton)

The son of a nurse and engineer, Puri is a proud second-generation Sikh-American. He currently works within Fiat Chrysler as part of their leadership development program. Prior to that, he worked for the Obama Administration from 2007-2012 and had a pivotal role in directing $5M in sales tax funds for the “Obama for America” campaign.

Puri holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Ohio State University and a Master of Science in Business Administration from the University of Chicago’s Booth School of Business.

- Occupation: Auto Executive; Local Government
- District: 60.49% Democratic Base. Mr. Puri received 59.14% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Macomb County, including part of the cities of Sterling Heights and Warren.
22nd District
Richard Steenland
(D-Roseville)

A lifelong resident of Roseville, Steenland is currently the Roseville City Clerk. He has been involved with local government since his first year on the City Council, 1993.
Steenland initially filed to run for Macomb County Clerk in early 2020 but withdrew after receiving endorsements from union groups, elected officials and his family. He is a member of the Roseville Scholarship Foundation and the Macomb County Clerks Association.

Steenland attended Macomb County Community College and Oakland Community College.

- Replaces Term-Limited Rep. John Chirkun (D-Roseville)
- Occupation: Local Government
- District: 63.97% Democratic Base. Mr. Steenland received 59.90% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Macomb County, including the cities of Warren and Roseville.
27th District
Regina Weiss
(D-Oak Park)

Weiss currently works for the Detroit Public Schools Community District as an English teacher. She has previously worked on the campaigns of Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence and Anil Kumar for Wayne State University Board of Governors. Weiss is involved with multiple non-profit organizations and serves as Secretary of the Tri-Community Coalition.

Weiss graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Secondary Education from Valparaiso University.

- Replaces Term-Limited Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D-Oak Park), who was elected Oakland County Treasurer.
- Occupation: Educator; Local Government; Campaign Organizer
- District: 78.42% Democratic Base. Ms. Weiss received 74.41% of the vote. The district is within Macomb County and includes the Township of Harrison and parts of Clinton & Macomb Township
37th District
Samantha Steckloff
(D-Farmington Hills)

Steckloff is currently serving her second term on the Farmington Hills City Council, where she is the council liaison to the Commission on Community Health and Parks and Recreation Commission. Prior to that, she was the youngest city youth advisor in the country after being selected as a charter member for the Farmington Hills Youth Council. Steckloff has also served on the Committee to Increase Voter Participation and Parks and Recreation Commission.

Steckloff earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science at Purdue University.
38th District
Kelly Breen
(D-Nov i)

Breen works as an intake attorney with Goodman Acker. Previously, she worked as an attorney with Bernstein & Bernstein. She serves as a member of the Novi City Council. She is a member of the Michigan Association for Justice, League of Women Voters, Sandy Hook Promise, Michigan Moms Demand Action, and Novi Parks Foundation.

Breen graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Relations and Psychology from Michigan State University and a Juris Doctor from Wayne State University Law School.
45th District
Mark Tisdel
(R-Rochester)

Tisdel is a principal at Backus Payne & Associates and specializes in medical liability insurance. He has been a resident of Rochester for 30 years and was elected city council president in 2015. Tisdel sat on the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester and has worked with other national charities Angels’ Place and Teen LifeLine.

Tisdel graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Drake University.

- Occupation: Insurance Agent; Local Government
- District: 52.88% Republican Base. Mr. Tisdel received 51.03% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Oakland County, including the cities of Rochester and Rochester Hills.
Bezotte is a lifelong Livingston County resident and was elected Sheriff from 2004-2016. After 33 years of experience in law enforcement, Bezotte became a director of security for Domino’s Pizza. Following his hiatus in law enforcement, he was elected to two terms as County Commissioner in 2016 and ‘18.

Bezotte holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Eastern Michigan University and completed the FBI National Academy at the University of Virginia.
48th District
David Martin
(R-Davison)

Martin is a lifelong Davison resident and has served as a Genesee County Commissioner since 2016. He is the Veteran Services Coordinator for Mott Community College and served on the Davison City Council from 2009-2013. Martin has been heavily involved in his community, serving as Past Commander of Davison American Legion Post, Past Master of Davison Masonic Lodge, and a Flint Blue Badge Volunteer.

After graduating high school, Martin enlisted in the United States Air Force where he later retired honorably as a Master Sergeant.

- Replaces Incumbent Rep. Sheryl Kennedy (D-Davison) who he defeated in the General Election. The district changed partisan control.
- Occupation: Local Government; U.S. Air Force, Retired
- District: 46.86% Republican Base. Mr. Martin received 50.50% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Genesee County, including the Cities of Clio, Davison and Montrose; Townships of Davison, Forest, Genesee, Montrose, Richfield, Thetford, and Vienna.
55th District
Felicia Brabec
(D-Pittsfield Twp.)

Brabec owns a small business where she is a practicing clinical psychologist. She is the longest-serving member on the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, where she has worked on supporting schools and protecting the environment for the past eight years. Brabec is also a board member of Food Gatherers and Garrett’s Space.

Brabec graduated with a PhD in Clinical Psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology, and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from the University of Michigan.

• Occupation: Small Business Owner; Local Government
• District: 72.1% Democratic Base. Ms. Brabec received 72.3% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Washtenaw County, including part of the cities of Ann Arbor and Milan, the townships of Augusta and York, and part of the townships of Ann Arbor & Pittsfield.
56th District
T.C. Clements
(R-Bedford Twp.)


Occupation: Small Business Owner; Law Enforcement, retired.

District: 57.99% Republican Base. Mr. Clements received 64.19% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Monroe County including the cities of Luna Pier, Milan, & Petersburg; townships of Bedford, Erie, Ida, Milan, Summerfield & Whiteford.

Clements currently owns Premier Cruise Planners and serves as township trustee. This follows a career in law enforcement where he served as deputy police chief in Eliot, Maine. Clements has always had entrepreneurial roots; he also started Portable Solar Systems and worked in the solar technology field.

Clements earned a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from Flagler College.
58th District
Andrew Fink
(R-Hillsdale)

Fink served as a reservist in the Marine Corps at the same time he was named partner of Fink and Fink PLLC in 2014. He is a proud member of the NRA, American Legion, and the Federalist Society. Fink is currently commissioner-at-large of the State Bar of Michigan. He is an avid musician and plays guitar at various schools, his church, and events or fundraisers within his community.

Fink earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and received his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan.

- Occupation: Small Business Owner; Attorney; Marine Corps, retired
- District: 69.01% Republican Base. Mr. Fink received 71.22% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Branch and Hillsdale Counties.
59th District
Steve Carra
(R-Three Rivers)

Carra most recently worked for current Rep. Steve Johnson, who is consistently ranked the one of the most conservative State Representatives. Prior to that, he served as a research assistant at Action Institute, a Christian-based think tank focusing on good intentions with sound economics. Carra unsuccessfully ran for Kalamazoo County Commissioner in 2018.

Carra earned a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Associate of Arts in Political Science from Western Michigan University.

• Occupation: State Legislative Staff; Research Assistant
• District: 62.77% Republican Base. Mr. Carra received 64.22% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Cass and St. Joseph Counties including Townships of Calvin, Jefferson, Lagrange, Marcellus, Mason, Newberg, Penn, Pokagon, Porter, Volinia, & Wayne.
60th District
Julie Rogers
(D-Kalamazoo)

Rogers currently practices physical therapy at Ascension Borgess in Kalamazoo and serves as a Borgess Diversity Council member. She is in her fourth term as chair on the Kalamazoo County Commission and has spent six years serving on the National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee. Rogers is a member of the Kalamazoo County Democratic Party. She unsuccessfully ran for the 61st House district in 2006 and 2008.

Rogers earned a Master of Arts in Physical Therapy and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Marquette University.

• Occupation: Physical Therapist; Local Government
• District: 75.9% Democrat Base. Ms. Rogers received 74.9% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Kalamazoo County including the cities of Portage and Kalamazoo along with part of Kalamazoo Township.
61st District
Christine Morse
(D-Texas Twp.)

Morse has spent the past 20 years as an attorney practicing in insurance defense litigation, workers’ compensation defense, and medical malpractice defense. She is currently serving her first term as Kalamazoo County commissioner and is a member of the Texas Township Flooding Task Force, and South-central Michigan Planning Council.

Morse received a Bachelor of Arts from Michigan State University and a Juris Doctor from Wayne State University Law School.

- Occupation: Attorney; Local Government
- District: 53.13% Republican Base. Ms. Morse received 54.07% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Kalamazoo County, including part of the City of Portage and Townships of Oshtemo, Prairie Ronde, Schoolcraft & Texas.
70th District
Pat Outman
(R-Six Lakes)

At 27 years of age, Outman has always been around the political arena. His father, State Senator Rick Outman, was elected to his first Senate term in 2018 after previously serving as a Representative from 2011-17. Currently, Outman is the House district liaison for Montcalm County and a former employee of the House committee clerks’ office. He has worked within the family excavating business as a lead carpenter while living and assisting on his family’s small cattle farm.

Outman received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration & Management from Ferris State University.

- Replaces Incumbent Rep. Jim Lower (R-Cedar Lake) who unsuccessfully ran for Congress.
- Occupation: Local Government; Excavating
- District: 61.32% Republican Base. Mr. Outman received 68.88% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Gratiot and Montcalm Counties, including part of the Cities of Portage and Townships of Alma and St. Louis.
73rd District
Bryan Posthumus
(R-Greenville)

Posthumus is a fourth-generation farmer and lifelong resident of Kent County. He is the son of former Lt. Governor Dick Posthumus and brother of former Lt. Governor candidate Lisa Posthumus Lyons. Currently, Posthumus is a managing partner at the largest farmer owned and operated hopyard in Michigan with locations in Oakfield and Courtland townships. He is a member at Ada Bible Church in Grand Rapids.

Posthumus earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business Management from Michigan State University.
83rd District
Andrew Beeler
(R-Fort Gratiot)

Beeler was born in Port Huron and marks the fifth generation of his family in southeastern Michigan. He spent four years training at the Naval Academy and five years of commissioned service as a Surface Warfare Officer. Beeler has received multiple accolades while serving, including the Navy Achievement Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Junior Officer Leadership Award.

Beeler earned a Bachelor of Science in Naval Architecture from US Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.
95th District
Amos O’Neal (D-Saginaw)

O’Neal is a lifelong resident of Saginaw and is the current Saginaw County Commissioner. He is a past member of the Saginaw City Council and has served on multiple boards and commissions at the local, state and federal level. O’Neal currently works for Federal Express as a safety and regional transporter. He has volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America and Cherry Street Health Services.

O’Neal earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Northwood University.

- Replaces Term-Limited Rep. Vanessa Guerra (R-Port Huron),
- Occupation: FedEx; Local Government
- District: 71.88% Democratic Base. Mr. O’Neal received 70.10% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Saginaw County, including the Cities of Saginaw and Zilwaukee.
Replaces Incumbent Rep. Brian Elder (R-Bay City), who he defeated in the General Election. The district changed partisan control.

- Occupation: Small Business Owner; Local Government
- District: 47.42% Democratic Base. Mr. Beson received 57.40% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Bay County, including the Cities of Bay City and Essexville.

Beson is a lifelong resident of Bay County and currently serves on the school board for Bangor Township Schools. He is the owner of Beson’s Market in Bay City, which has been in his family four generations. His upset in this district marks the first Republican to hold the seat since 1974.

Beson earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Saginaw Valley State University.
104th District
John Roth
(R-Traverse City)

A lifelong resident of northern Michigan, Roth is the owner of Roth Marine Services, where he works as Harbor Master for Bowers Harbor Yacht Club in Traverse City. Roth has previously served as chair of the Traverse County Parks and Recreation Commission and is also a strong supporter of the Special Olympics.

Roth graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Sciences and Recreational Boating from Northwestern Michigan College.

- Occupation: Small Business Owner; Community Advocate
- District: 53.44% Republican Base. Mr. Roth received 50.93% of the vote. The district is comprised of parts of Grand Traverse County.
105th District
Ken Borton
(R-Gaylord)

Borton has been a resident of Gaylord for over 25 years. He is a member of the NRA, Right to Life, Farm Bureau, and Chamber of Commerce. Borton has over 40 years of experience as a small business owner in real estate and property management. He has served as the chairman of Otsego County Board of Commissioners, former President of Michigan Association of Counties in Lansing, and former President of Northern Michigan Counties Association.


- Replaces Term-Limited Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) who unsuccessfully ran for Antrim County Sherriff.
- Occupation: Small Business Owner; Local Government
- District: 63.3% Republican Base. Mr. Borton received 66.3% of the vote. The district is comprised of the following Counties: Antrim, Charlevoix, Montmorency, Oscoda, and Otsego.
107th District
John Damoose
(R-Harbor Springs)

Damoose is a longtime resident of Harbor Springs. He and his father started 45 North Productions; a production company dedicated to telling stories of people who made America a great nation. Damoose’s company has produced dozens of high-profile videos and films. His family has worked to launch several non-profit organizations including the Religious Heritage of America Foundation.

Damoose graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Michigan.