

CANDIDATE FORUMS

OCTOBER 12TH – U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 5TH DISTRICT

MAIN BRANCH, FLINT PUBLIC LIBRARY – 1026 E. Kearsley St.

7 – 9:00 p.m.

**CANDIDATES: DEMOCRATE – DALE KILDEE
REPUBLICAN – JOHN KUPIEC
GREEN PARTY – MATTHEW DeHEUS
LIBERTARIAN PARTY – MICHAEL MOON**

**CO-SPONSORS: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Beta Omega Chapter
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Flint Alumnae Chapter**

OCTOBER 13TH – 68TH DISTRICT COURT FORUM

MAIN BRANCH, FLINT PUBLIC LIBRARY – 1026 E. Kearsley St.

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**CANDIDATES: M. CATHY DOWD
DAMIKA L. PACE – BYRD**

**CO-SPONSORS: Genesee County Bar Association
Mallory Van Dyne Scott Association**

MODERATOR: WILLIAM REISING, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

OCTOBER 26TH – CON-CON QUESTION

**Ballot Question on whether or not to rewrite the
State Constitution**

MCC REGIONAL TECH CENTER – Entrance off Longway Blvd.

CO-SPONSOR: FLINT AREA PUBLIC DEBATES

PATIENT PROTECTION AND
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
(Otherwise known as Health Care Reform
legislation)

On September 23rd

- Employer-sponsored plans as well as individually purchased coverages are required to extend coverage to young adults up to age 26 on their parents' plans, if the plans offer dependent coverage. Eligibility is based on age & lack of access to his/her own employer-sponsored coverage. The young adult does not have to be a student or live in the same household as his/her parents. The provision does not apply to young adults whose parents are in retiree-only plans.
- Families with children with chronic health conditions or pre-existing medical conditions can no longer be rejected for coverage or have their child's condition excluded from their health benefits. The provision applies to all employer group plans. It does not apply to all plans purchased through the individual market.
- Health insurance plans can no longer cancel coverage for someone who becomes ill, unless the person misrepresented his/her situation.
- Health insurance plans can no longer impose lifetime limits on the amount of total benefits a plan will pay. Plans must provide notice & a re-enrollment period for those who reached this limit prior to Sept. 23.
- Insurance plans are restricted in the amount of annual benefit limits. These increase between Sept. 23rd & Jan. 1, 2014 from benefits of not less than \$750,000 in the 1st year to \$2 million by Sept. 23rd, 2012.
- Private plans must provide proven preventative services as recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force with no co-pays

or deductibles. This requirement will be expanded to Medicare Jan. 2011.

- New plans are required to allow individuals the choice of a primary care doctor or pediatrician from among their plan's provider network. Referrals cannot be required to see an OB-GYN doctor. Prior approval cannot be required before seeking emergency care at a hospital outside a plan's network.

Prior provisions:

- Categories of those eligible for Medicaid on March 23, 2010 cannot be reduced or restricted. States had the option of expanding Medicaid coverage to those with incomes of up to 133% of poverty level. The federal government will pay 100% of the cost of newly eligibles 2014-2016, phasing down to 90 \$ by 2020.
- Seniors who entered the "donut hole" began receiving \$250 one-time rebate checks to help with their drug costs.
- July 1, a new website by the federal government provided information on the provisions of the PPACA.
- August 31st – enrollment began for MI Pre-Existing Condition Insurance plan administered under contract with the federal government by Physician's Health Plan of Mid-MI.
- Tax credits for 2010 for small businesses that provide health insurance to their employees.
- DHHS is making grants to states to protect consumers from unreasonable rate increases.

For more information go to The Affordable Care Act: Immediate Benefits for Michigan, www.healthreform.gov. LWVMI is a member of the Michigan Consumer Health Care Coalition.

**OCTOBER 21st– PANEL DISCUSSION ON NOVEMBER ELECTION ISSUES
WOODSIDE CHURCH 1509 E. Court St. 7:00 p.m.**

**PANEL DISCUSSION ON NOVEMBER ELECTION ISSUES
MODERATOR: TIM SKUBECK**

**BOB WINFREY (CONSERVATIVE)
J. DALLAS WINEGARDEN (PROGRESSIVE)
PAUL ROZYCKI (NEUTRAL)
CHAIRMEN OF THE REPUBLICAN & DEMOCRATIC PARTIES**

FOLLOWING THE PANEL – QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

DISCLOSE ACT INFORMATION:

The League supports the Disclose Act which would help restore transparency to U.S. elections by regulating disclosure of corporate and union spending in candidate elections.

In the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Citizens United vs. the Federal Election Commission* the gates were opened for special interest groups to make unlimited, secret donations to elect or defeat candidates. Passage of this act would stop manipulation by fly-by-night hit groups and prevent U.S. and foreign organizations from making secret contributions in candidate elections.

Voters deserve to know the sources for funding of election advertising.

Unfortunately, obstructionism prevented the Senate from beginning debate on this bill.

The League will continue to press Senators to vote for this legislation. We urge you to do the same.

MICHIGAN CAMPAIGN FINANCE NETWORK

To date the amount of money raised in Michigan for House races is \$10,152,168
For Michigan Senate races - \$10,755,281 Spending is up 8.3% since 2006, the last time candidates for both the Senate and the House faced the electorate.

The Republican Governor's Association leads in PAC funds - \$4 million

Behind them:

Michigan House Democratic Fund
Senate Republican Congressional Committee
House Republican Congressional Committee
Coalition for Progress (Jon Stryker)
BC-BS
UAW MI voluntary PAC
MEA
Senate Democratic Fund
MI Association for Justice

For more election information go to www.lwvflintarea.org & VOTE411

Forums and interviews featuring Candidates for Genesee County Commission, Genesee County Treasurer and candidates for local Michigan Senate and Michigan House of Representatives can be viewed on Comcast.

For LWV Flint Area Membership information contact Helen Hoyt at 233-6659 or go to our website for a membership application