



graphic by Candis Older

Election 2010: Make Sure to Exercise Your (Inexplicit) Right to Vote

Learning Objectives

- Discuss proposals that will be included on the 2010 Michigan fall ballot
- List the arguments of whether or not to hold a constitutional convention
- Describe the impact of congressional turnover
- Explain how pharmacy professionals play a vital role in seeing that pharmacy priorities are achieved with the next legislature

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This November will be the fourth anniversary of the release of Nintendo's most recent gaming console, the Nintendo Wii. Although Wii's are now relatively easy to find, you may remember that in order to procure one of these devices when first released, you had to plan an all-nighter at your local electronic superstore the morning of Black Friday in hopes

of capturing one. That's exactly what I did.

As you might imagine, conversation with those around you tends to come pretty easy when you are sitting on a camping chair at 3 a.m., freezing and without your much more rational friends. One would almost do anything to avoid falling asleep and missing out on your most sought after prize. So I began to chat with "Mat", who had been waiting next to me in line for the previous hour or so. Mat couldn't believe that we had just re-elected Gov. Granholm over Grand Rapids businessman Dick Devos, allowed the Michigan House to turn Democratic for the first time since the late 1990s and allowed Republicans to come dangerously close to losing the state Senate for the first

time since 1982. When I casually asked Mat if he voted to allow the hunting of mourning doves in Michigan, his reply was "Oh, I didn't vote."

I can think of hundreds of better uses of my time than standing in line."

Unfortunately, the opinion of my line mate is not unique to himself. Statistically speaking, probably only half of the people reading this right now voted in either the 2006 or 2008 elections and, furthermore, will likely vote this year. As a matter of fact, the average turnout for the voting age population in Michigan in gubernatorial election years (2006, 2002, 1998, etc.) since 1974 is only 44 percent. Turnout in the voting age population in presidential election years since 1972 is better, but still not encouraging at 60 percent. So why is it important for pharmacists to be involved in the process by visiting their polling place on Nov. 2? And, what sort of changes will take place because of Election Day 2010?

Impact of Term Limits

In November 1992, Michigan voters approved an amendment to the state

constitution limiting the number of terms individuals may serve in the state House and Senate. Beginning in January 1993, office holders were limited to: two four-year terms as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general and state Senate, or three two-year terms as a state representative. This November, Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Lt. Gov. John Cherry, Attorney General Mike Cox, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, 34 of the 110 current members of the House and 29 of the 38 current members of the Senate will be prohibited from seeking re-election due to term limits. In addition to those members who are prohibited from returning because of term limits, 14 additional members are running for another office and will not return to their respective chamber. It should also be noted that two seats of the House are currently vacant.

While some argue that term limits allow for individuals with fresh perspectives and new ideas to serve in office, others say that they greatly contribute to the decline of institutional knowledge and historical perspective of the legislature. In fact, some argue that the ballot proposal enacted early last decade intended to keep legislators more in touch with their constituents and less reliant on capitol lobbyists has, in fact, done the opposite. Wayne State University political science professor Majorie Sarbaugh-Thomson stated in a column by Brian Dickerson in the March 12, 2010, *Detroit Free Press* that "Term limits were sold to voters on the notion that they would sever close ties with lobbyists and cause legislators to be more independent [but in] reality, we found them to have the opposite impact."²

This correlation is evident when looking at legislative committees. When legislation is introduced in either the House or the Senate, at either the state or federal level, they are referred to a policy committee that will consider the legislation by holding hearings and allowing debate. The most common actions a committee takes when considering the legislation is to report the bill with a favorable recommendation with or without amendments; vote to not report the bill from committee; or to take no action on the bill altogether. Most policy-related decisions on a piece of legislation are undertaken at the committee level. Prior to the enacting of term limits, committee chairmen were among the more senior members of the chamber's majority party and were considered in-house experts on their given committees and the issues over which they presided. Today, it is not uncommon to see committees chaired by newly-elected legislators who

lack adequate background knowledge of the issues that their committee oversees. Because of this, many legislators look to lobbyists who, in many cases, are former legislators or staff members because they are generally the most knowledgeable and have the best understanding of the issue.

One may wonder how term limits affect pharmacy directly. In the legislature, the health policy committees in both the House and the Senate play a critical role in shaping legislation that impacts pharmacy. Currently, 21 members of the state House sit on its respective health policy committee, while seven serve in the respective committee in the Senate. Of those 28 health policy committee members in both the House and the Senate, legislators that over the past several years MPA and Pharmacy PAC created and sustained positive working relationships, roughly half will not be returning to their current chamber as a result of term limits. In addition, the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Community Health, the two committees that address pharmacy as it relates to the state budget and Michigan Medicaid, will lose nine out of its 16 members. Once the 96th legislature is seated in January of 2011, MPA will be forced to "start over" in order to educate a new class of legislators and two transformed health policy committees about the importance of pharmacy in health care.

Besides next year's transformation of the House and Senate Health Policy committees, term limits are commanding those in the state legislature who have in the past been friends of pharmacy to surrender their seats. State Sen. Jim Barcia, for example, has a distinguished career of more than 30 years in public service serving in both the state and U.S. House of Representatives before returning to the state Senate in 2002. Sen. Barcia, who has currently introduced legislation to allow and provide for the licensure and recertification of pharmacy technicians in Michigan, has maintained that "pharmacists play an essential role in this process by actively seeking the safest and most cost-effective solution for the individuals and families they work with, taking time out of their busy schedules to fully explain the purpose of a prescribed medication and potential side-effects." He also credits the support of the pharmacists in his community of Bay City as one of the driving forces in his first election victory to the state House in 1976. Term limits also claimed the state House career of pharmacist and former representative Steve Ehardt. Since his departure from the state House in 2004, the legislature has been without pharmacist. While on the

surface this may not sound significant, it is. Legislators rely on their colleagues with experience in a given profession (whether it be pharmacy, law, education, etc.) when legislation affecting that field is considered. Without a pharmacist in the legislature, the pharmacy perspective may be absent in debate within the caucus rooms or on either the House or Senate floor.

Congressional Turnover

In the U.S. Congress, the combination of retirements, incumbent defeats, an aging congressional delegation and the likely loss of one or two congressional seats due to declining state population are all contributing to Michigan's waning congressional influence. While to some this may seem disastrous—and in many ways it isn't all that helpful to our floundering state—this occurrence is cyclical as most states will face similar challenges in their history.

With three incumbent members of Congress announcing their retirements this year, Reps. Bart Stupak (D-Menominee), Pete Hoekstra (R-Holland) and Vern Ehlers (R-Grand Rapids), voters in the upper peninsula, northern lower peninsula and western lower peninsula will be deciding who will serve as their next member of Congress. Congressional elections absent an incumbent are significant because the individual who is ultimately successful has a 98 percent likelihood that they will be re-elected every two years. In most cases, those elected to Congress will hold their seat until they decide to retire or until it is politically or personally detrimental to keep it.

While congressional incumbents have many advantages (i.e., district-wide name recognition and a greater ability to fundraise) when it comes to running for re-election, some districts are more competitive, with the potential for seats switching between parties or between individuals of the same party. Michigan's 7th Congressional District, for example, hasn't had a representative serve two consecutive terms since former Rep. Nick Smith decided not to run for re-election in 2004 after spending six terms in congress. Since then, three individuals have served the southern, lower Michigan district that encompasses part of west Lansing to the Michigan-Ohio border in the past six years: Rep. Joe Schwartz (2005-2007) was defeated by Tipton Republican Tim Walberg in Nov. 2006, who was then defeated by current Rep. Mark Schauer two years later. Because Schauer received only 48.7 percent of the vote in his November 2008 victory, combined with the fact that he is only the second

Democrat to serve the 7th District since World War II and that polling has showed that his voting record is less than favorable with the voters in his district, he could be vulnerable in his rematch with Walberg this November.

The retirements of three members of Michigan's congressional delegation are likely setting the stage for more retirements in the near future. Michigan has one of the oldest congressional delegations in the country, with four of the oldest 12 members of the United States House being from Michigan: Rep. John Dingell (D-Dearborn; born July 8, 1926; first took office in 1955 and is currently the Dean of the House of Representatives), Rep. John Conyers (D-Detroit; born May 16, 1929; took office in 1965), Rep. Dale Kildee (D-Flint; born Sept. 16, 1929; first took office in 1977) and Rep. Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak; born Sept. 6, 1931; first took office in 1983). Once these four steadfast members decide to retire, they will be leaving Congress with more than 160 years combined years of service to their country and to Michigan.³

The last factor that will affect our state's declining congressional influence involves the probability that Michigan will lose one, if not two, seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2012. The number of congressional seats held by a state is dependent on their population. One member of Congress represents 650,000 people or so. The larger the state is, population wise, the more congressional seats that state will have, thus having more influence over states with less people. More members serving in Congress from a particular state generally means that the state has a greater chance to secure federal funding for state projects, as well as a greater influence on whether taxes, trade rules or regulations that could negatively impact the state will pass in the committee or chamber. Over the last decade, the Great Lakes State has lost a half a million people, more than the combined populations of Michigan's second, third and fourth-largest cities combined: Grand Rapids, Warren and Sterling Heights.⁴ This is in contrast to a number of states which populations grew at the same time, such as Texas, North Carolina and Arizona. It is likely that because Michigan has lost approximately 500,000 dwellers since the last census, Michigan will lose one seat in Congress, if not two, depending on the 2010 census results.

So how do retirements and overall turnover of Michigan's congressional delegation cause our state to lose influence on Capitol Hill? The answer is simply this:

seniority. Members within an individual caucus in their respective chamber have a greater opportunity for securing committee chairmanships or key committee assignments. Former Congressman William Hughes (D-NJ) explained that "Chairmen of key committees always have a lot of power because anytime anybody introduces a bill and wants a hearing, wants it reported out as a measure worthy of going to the House floor, wants a subcommittee chairmanship, all that gets decided by the chairman of the relevant committee."⁵ Because of their representative's lack of influence, districts that are represented by a first-term member of Congress also may not see the same amount of congressional earmarks, or federal appropriations for local projects (referred to as pork barrel spending by some). While there are those who vilify the use of federal earmarks, these dollars are used to benefit local government projects, as well as community businesses, schools and colleges, and other local organizations.

State Redistricting

Sections 3.61-64 and 4.261-263 of Michigan Compiled Laws detail Michigan's process for redistricting, or the redrawing of the state's political boundaries. The state House and Senate are in charge of adopting a redistricting plan and having it approved by the governor by Nov. 1, 2011. If a plan is not adopted by this date, the Michigan Supreme Court must intervene. The year 2001 is the only time since 1963, with Republicans controlling the state House, Senate and the Governor's office, in which the State Supreme Court has not had to intervene in the redistricting process.

The redistricting timetable is as follows:

- **March-July 2010**
Census forms are delivered and mailed to Households. Census workers visit households that did not return the completed census form.
- **December 2010**
The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to deliver the official population count, along with the apportionment results, to the President by the end of the month.⁶ Apportionment, in this context, refers to the distribution of seats in the United States House of Representatives based on each state in relationship to the population of the entire United States. Every congressional district across the country should have similar populations.
- **January 2011**
The President is to deliver to the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives the

apportionment count. The House clerk will then issue a credential to the governors of every state showing the number of congressional seats each state will receive until the results of the next census.

- **November 2011**

The Michigan House and Senate must, in accordance with the state constitution, have a redistricting plan that has been approved by the governor in place before Nov. 1.

- **May 2012**

Redistricting plans must be in place before the filing deadline for the August 2012 primary election.

Those 149 individuals elected to the legislature and into the governor's office as a result of this fall's election (and likely those serving on the state Supreme Court) will be responsible for drawing Michigan's political boundaries for the next 10 years, until the completion of the 2020 U.S. census. These boundaries will have a great impact as to political makeup of the legislature for the next decade, as well as impact the political party makeup of Michigan's congressional delegation.

Constitutional Convention

Article 12 of Michigan's constitution requires that voters are asked every 16 years whether or not to hold a new Constitutional Convention. If the question is approved this November, one delegate from each of the 110 state House districts and 38 Senate districts will need to be elected within six months of the Nov. 2, 2010, election date. The delegates would have until the first Tuesday of October 2011 to convene unless state law requires them to meet sooner. Once a proposed constitution is approved by a majority of all delegates, it has 90 days to be placed before Michigan voters to either be approved or rejected. If approved by the majority of voters, the new constitution will take effect. If defeated, or if Proposition 1 is defeated this November, the question of a constitutional convention will automatically reappear on the ballot again in 2026 and every 16 years to follow.

The last time the question of a constitutional convention was approved by the voters was April 3, 1961, and the voters narrowly adopted the current constitution in the summer of 1963 (a statewide recount was held because of the 7,424 vote margin). The last two times that the constitutional convention question appeared on the ballot, it was defeated soundly by 77 percent and 72 percent of voters in 1978 and 1994, respectively.

Delegates to a constitutional convention would have the option of remaking parts of the current constitution or creating a new governing document altogether. One of the main barriers that supporters face is the issue of cost for a constitutional convention. Preliminary estimates of a constitutional convention have been pegged as high as \$45 million, though supporters say that the use of technology could reduce costs. Another issue that is debated deals with whether a constitutional convention is the correct approach in addressing the state's structural budget deficit. Michigan's structural budget deficit is defined as occurring when the costs incurred when maintaining policies and programs increase more rapidly than revenue, even when the economy is performing at its peak.⁷ Advocates contend that a constitutional convention could address the structural deficit, as well as visit a number of issues including, but not limited, the revising of Michigan's term limit law, the prohibition on state unfunded mandates, a part-time legislature and the allowing of a graduated income tax or tax on services. Opponents argue that a constitutional convention that addresses issues dealing with tax reform or expansion would potentially impede industry expansion or growth in Michigan for the length of the convention. The legislature, opponents say, is capable of enacting change that Michigan desperately needs. Backers of the convention, however, deny this claim by asserting that the legislature has not shown a willingness to enact needed change.

Delegates would likely also address a number of provisions within the current constitution that could be in conflict with the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Constitution, the Michigan Supreme Court or current state statute. One item, for instance, is Section 2, Article 10 of the current Michigan Constitution reads that:

No person shall be elected to office as representative in the United States House of Representatives more than three times during any twelve year period. No person shall be elected to office as senator in the United States Senate more than two times during any twenty-four year period.⁸

The adoption of congressional term limits was not unique to Michigan; 23 other states had adopted similar laws. In *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, the United States Supreme Court ruled in a 5-4 decision that individual states are prohibited implicitly from implementing additional congressional qualifications in addition to those

enumerated in the Constitution. Justice John Paul Stevens, writing for the majority, stated that "if the States possessed some original power in this area, it must be concluded that the Framers intended the Constitution to be the exclusive source of qualifications for Members of Congress, and that the Framers thereby 'divested' States of any power to add qualifications." Stevens also noted that if individual states had the power to adopt differing qualifications for their congressional representatives, a "patchwork of state qualifications undermining the uniformity and the national character that the Framers envisioned and sought to ensure" would result.⁹

Other provisions within Michigan's current constitution that would likely need to be revisited are: Section 11 of Article 1 (the Exclusionary Rule; Section 11 reads that "The person, Houses, papers and possessions of every person shall be secure from unreasonable searches and seizures. No warrant to search any place or to seize any person or things shall issue without describing them, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to bar from evidence in any criminal proceeding any narcotic drug, firearm, bomb, explosive or any other dangerous weapon, seized by a peace officer outside the curtilage of any dwelling House in this state." The last sentence of Section 11 has been ruled by the courts to be invalid, as it conflicts with the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution); Section 1, Article 2 (Voting Age Requirement; stated that individuals 21 years of age or older are qualified to vote in Michigan; this is in conflict with the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which was adopted in 1971); Section 6, Article 2 (Property Ownership Voting Requirement; required that only individuals or the spouses of individuals who own property within a municipality the ability to vote on questions involving the increase of personal property or real estate taxes); Section 7, Article 7 (County Board of Supervisors; states that "[a] board of supervisors shall be established in each organized county consisting of one member from each organized township and such representation from cities as provided by law."; ruled unconstitutional on the basis of *Avery, Petitioner v. Midland County, Texas* (1967)); Section 2, Article 8 (Nonpublic schools, prohibited aid; decided in *Traverse City School District v. Attorney General* that this Section violated the provisions regarding equal protection in the U.S. Constitution); and portions of Article 4 (dealing with legislative apportionment).¹⁰

Although it is unlikely that a creation of a new constitution would benefit or harm the practice of pharmacy directly, a constitutional convention could address issues that could impact pharmacy indirectly. The consideration by the convention as to business, sales and property tax rates, along with third party reimbursement to health care providers specifically related to Michigan Medicaid, could be addressed, impacting the cost of business for pharmacies.

What Can Pharmacists Do?

Besides visiting their polling place on Nov. 2, pharmacy professionals can play a vital role in seeing that pharmacy priorities are achieved with the next legislature. Pharmacy professionals who develop and maintain relationships with those seeking political office, and especially by volunteering on or contributing financially to their campaign, help in making political allies. This relationship was evident, especially in Sen. Barcia's case, from the support he received from pharmacy since his entrance into politics. Because of their visibility within the community where they serve, and because they are annually ranked as one of the most trusted professions, pharmacists are at an advantage to establish lasting relationships with candidates, who are their patients.

Examples abound of personal relationships existing between pharmacy professionals and lawmakers, many of which have been born with little more than a coincidence. One mid-Michigan pharmacist, for example, met a state House candidate several years ago at an event the candidate was holding in their community. After chatting with the candidate briefly, the pharmacist made a financial contribution to his campaign and offered that if there was anything else he could assist him with to let him know. Several weeks had past but the candidate did call, on July 3, asking if the pharmacist would be available to walk with him in a parade the next day. After likely having to take into consideration any plans or commitments on Independence Day, the pharmacist decided that he would, in fact, join the candidate the next day. The candidate would eventually go on to win his seat in the Michigan House that November and to this day is thankful for the support that the pharmacist provided him throughout his campaign. When issues relating to pharmacy or health care are considered in the House, the representative always seeks out this pharmacist's advice.

Conclusion

While the November 2010 general election ballot contains a number of questions

that will affect the state for years to come, don't think that voting this year is any more crucial than any other election day. Think about this: are the decisions that voters make in a statewide election more crucial to the entire state than choices made by voters in more local elections, which see even lower turnout than off-year elections, to their community? No. Every vote is equally important, whether it be for president, governor, a ballot proposal, your local mayor or city council, school board member or precinct delegate. Every election is as vital to our community as the last and the next.

Former Minnesota Congressman Walter Judd once asserted that "[P]eople often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote - a very different thing."¹¹ Unfortunately, there are too many Mat's out there who would rather participate in activities which could be considered less significant to the survival of our representative democracy than spend the couple of minutes every year or two to exercise a right that was provided to each of us in the state constitution (believe it or not, the U.S. Constitution does not explicitly provide citizens a right to vote. The 14th through the Equal Protection Clause, 15th, 17th, 19th, 24th and 26th Amendments all clarify what is a common constitutional misconception). But, on the other hand, if Mat and his similar minded comrades decide that voting isn't their bag, I guess that means my vote means more.

References available upon request from the MPA office.

2010 Congressional Scorecard

	111th Congress	Safe	Likely	Lean	112th Congress Projected
Democrats	255	171	27	30	228
Republicans	178	162	8	8	178
Toss-Up					29

Source: http://innovation.cqpolitics.com/atlas/House2010_rr?referrer=righttrail, June 21, 2010

2010 State Senate Scorecard

	95th Legislature	Safe	Likely	Lean	96th Legislature Projected
Democrats	16	10	3	1	14
Republicans	22	4	8	5	17
Toss-Up					7

2010 State House Scorecard

	95th Legislature	Safe	Likely	Lean	96th Legislature Projected
Democrats	65*	35	7	13	55
Republicans	43	21	8	9	38
Toss-Up					17

*Two seats currently sit vacant

Source: Inside Michigan Politics, May 17, 2010

Important Information Regarding Pharmacy Technician Continuing Education Credit

Due to new guidelines established by Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), certain changes must be made to the process by which MPA accredits continuing education for pharmacy technicians. MPA may choose to designate programs or home study articles as PTCE-accredited, rather than ACPE-accredited.

However, even though MPA may accredit a program for technicians, it is the technician's responsibility to determine whether the subject matter is acceptable to the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) for recertification. Programs designated by PTCB to be appropriate for technicians pertain to the following topics: medication distribution and inventory control systems, pharmacy administration and management calculations, programs specific to pharmacy technicians, interpersonal skills, organizational skills, pharmacy law and pharmacology/drug therapy. Programs relating to functions outside the scope of practice for pharmacy technicians will not be accepted by PTCB.

This is a knowledge-based activity.



Michigan Pharmacists Association is an approved provider of Pharmacy Technician Continuing Education (PTCE). PTCE Program #112-000-10-924-H04-T, 1.0 contact hour. Initial release date: 9/5/2010. Expiration date: 9/5/2013.



Michigan Pharmacists Association is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. ACPE Program #112-000-10-008-H04-P, 1.0 contact hour. Initial release date: 9/5/2010. Expiration date: 9/5/2013.

Analysis of 2010 Elections on Mi

1st Congressional District

Current nine-term Congressman Bart Stupak (D-Menominee) is retiring.

District Base: 50.1% Democratic

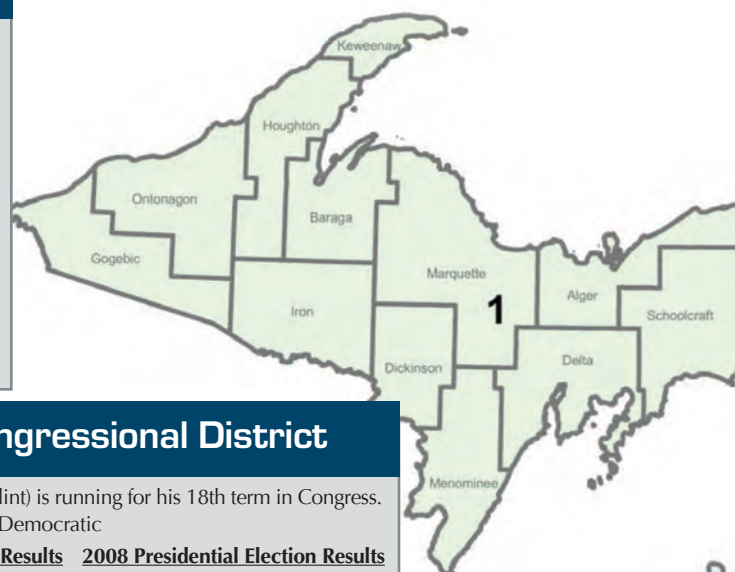
2008 House Election Results

Bart Stupak (D): 65.04%
Tom Casperson (R): 32.74%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 50%
John McCain (R): 48%

Analysis: Stupak's retirement turns an otherwise safe seat for Democrats into one that they are going to have to work harder to keep in 2010. Although he is ideologically similar to Stupak, current State Rep. Gary McDowell (D-Rudyard) will face a well financed and organized Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls) in November. Democrats will have to work harder than they had originally thought if they hope to hold onto this swing seat which includes all of the Upper Peninsula throughout northern Michigan and stretches into Bay City.



2nd Congressional District

U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra (R-Holland) decided not to run for a 10th term in Congress and chose instead to run for the Republican nominee for governor. Hoekstra was not successful, coming in second to Ann Arbor venture capitalist Rick Snyder in the GOP gubernatorial primary.

District Base: 59.2% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Fred Johnson (D): 34.81%
Pete Hoekstra (R): 62.36%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 47%
John McCain (R): 51%

Analysis: Considered to have the highest GOP base in the state, Michigan's 2nd Congressional District isn't likely to turn blue, even, as the MIRS 2008 Michigan Election Guide & Almanac put it, "under even the most perfect Democratic storm."

5th Congressional District

Rep. Dale Kildee (D-Flint) is running for his 18th term in Congress.

District Base: 64.4% Democratic

2008 House Election Results

Dale Kildee (D): 70.36%
Matt Sawicki (R): 26.96%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 64%
John McCain (R): 35%

Analysis: Unless something disastrous for Democrats occurs in the next several weeks, the 5th Congressional District is likely to remain blue.

6th Congressional District

First elected into Congress in 1986, Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph) is seeking his 13th term in the U.S. House.

District Base: 51.8% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Don Cooney (D): 38.56%
Fred Upton (R): 58.86%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 54%
John McCain (R): 44%

Analysis: Although on paper he looks beatable, Rep. Upton has won with at least 58% of the vote the last four election years. A Democrat has not represented southwest Michigan in Congress since 1932.

3rd Congressional District

Rather than seek his tenth term in Congress, Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-Grand Rapids) is retiring.

District Base: 57.2% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Henry Sanchez (D): 35.37%
Vern Ehlers (R): 61.11%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 49%
John McCain (R): 49%

Analysis: Much like Michigan's 2nd Congressional District, this GOP stronghold won't be picked up by Democrats for a long, long time, if ever. Current State Rep. Justin Amash ran away in the Aug. 3 primary, meaning he will likely be moving to Washington in January.

7th Congressional District

Former state Senate Minority Leader and first-term Congressman Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek) is running for re-election in this southern-lower Michigan district.

District Base: 48.3% Democratic

2008 House Election Results

Mark Schauer (D): 48.78%
Tim Walberg (R): 46.47%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 52%
John McCain (R): 46%

Analysis: Michigan's most competitive congressional district this decade, the 7th, has had four different representatives in Congress the last eight years. One of two Democratic challengers to oust a Republican incumbent in 2008, Schauer will have a tough rematch ahead in November with Walberg.

4th Congressional District

Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland) is seeking his 11th term in Congress.

District Base: 53.6% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Andrew Concannon (D): 35.68%
Dave Camp (R): 61.94%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 50%
John McCain (R): 48%

Analysis: Although the district has only a 53.6% Republican base, Camp, save for something out of the ordinary happening, will be re-elected to an 11th term.

8th Congressional District

Five-term incumbent Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Brighton) is seeking re-election.

District Base: 52.2% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Robert Alexander (D): 40.23%
Mike Rogers (R): 56.53%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 53%
John McCain (R): 46%

Analysis: With the lone Democrat suspending his campaign in May, Rogers is almost assured to win his sixth congressional term.



Michigan Congressional Delegation

9th Congressional District

After defeating eight-term incumbent Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield Twp.) in 2008, Rep. Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Hills) is seeking a second term.

District Base: 50.1% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Gary Peters (D): 52.08%
Joe Knollenberg (R): 42.63%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 56%
John McCain (R): 43%

Analysis: Peters was the other Democrat to win office via an upset in 2008 but will likely have a smoother path to re-election this fall than Schauer.

10th Congressional District

Former Michigan Secretary of State Candice Miller (R-Harrison Twp.) is seeking her fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

District Base: 53.6% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Robert Denison (D): 31.17%
Candice Miller (R): 66.3%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 48%
John McCain (R): 50%

Analysis: In her last four congressional elections, Rep. Miller has averaged 65% of the vote, greatly outperforming the GOP's base strength in her congressional district. Expect Rep. Miller to win handily in 2010 and down the road.

11th Congressional District

Current House Republican Policy Chairman Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) is running for his fifth term in this district encompassing northwestern Wayne and southwestern Oakland counties.

District Base: 50.3% Republican

2008 House Election Results

Joseph Larkin (D): 45.37%
Thaddeus McCotter (R): 51.41%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 54%
John McCain (R): 45%

Analysis: Considering that they were mostly underfunded and little known candidates in 2006 and 2008, McCotter's opponents did reasonably well in losing efforts the last two election cycles (limiting McCotter to 54% and 51.3% of the vote in 2006 and 2008, respectively). Although the Republican base hovers around 50%, Democrats have failed to find a top-tier candidate to run against McCotter.

12th Congressional District

Elected 12 times to Congress, Sander Levin (D-Royal Oak) defeated state Sen. Mickey Switalski (D-Roseville) in the August primary election.

District Base: 66.5% Democratic

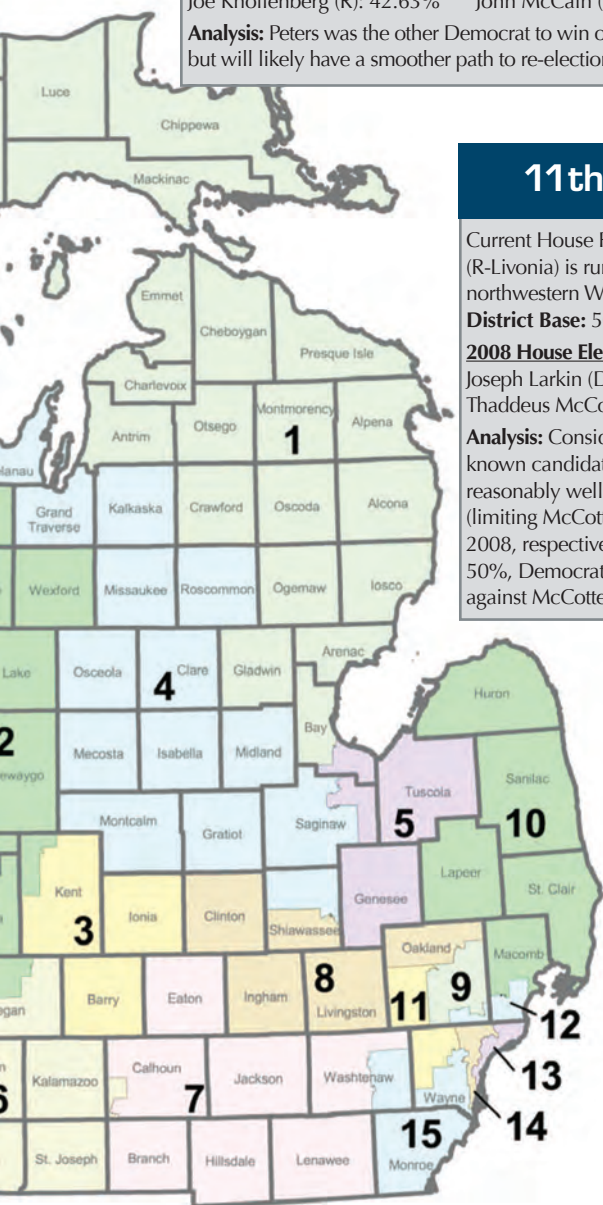
2008 House Election Results

Sander Levin (D): 72.07%
Bert Copple (R): 23.87%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 65%
John McCain (R): 33%

Analysis: With the 12th District being solidly democratic, Rep. Levin is expected to be re-elected.



13th Congressional District

Seven-term incumbent and mother to Detroit's embattled former mayor, U.S. Rep. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick was defeated by State Sen. Hansen Clarke in the Democratic primary in Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

District Base: 83.8% Democratic

2008 House Election Results

Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (D): 74.13%
Edward Gubics (R): 19.08%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 85%
John McCain (R): 14%

Analysis: After being defeated by then-Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick in the August 2005 mayoral primary election, Clarke closed the book on the Kilpatrick dynasty in Congress, and perhaps in Detroit politics, this August. With an almost 84% democratic base, Clarke will be sworn into the 112th Congress in January.

14th Congressional District

First elected to Congress in 1964, Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-Detroit) is seeking his 24th term in the U.S. House.

District Base: 86.5% Democratic

2008 House Election Results

John Conyers (D): 92.4%
No candidate --

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 86%
John McCain (R): 13%

Analysis: With the highest Democratic base in the state, Rep. Conyers is certain to be re-elected for a 24th term.

15th Congressional District

Rep. John Dingell (D-Dearborn), currently the Dean of the House as the longest serving member in the chamber and the third longest serving congressman ever, is running for re-election in this district that includes parts of Wayne and Washtenaw counties and all of Monroe County.

District Base: 66% Democratic

2008 House Election Results

John Dingell (D): 70.7%
John Lynch (R): 24.95%

2008 Presidential Election Results

Barack Obama (D): 66%
John McCain (R): 33%

Analysis: Speculation as to when Congressman Dingell will retire must be put on hold until at least 2012, as he almost assured his 28th term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Continuing Education Self-Assessment Questions

1. What is the maximum number of terms that an individual can serve in the Michigan House of Representatives?
 - a. Two, four-year terms
 - b. Three, two-year terms
 - c. Four, one-year terms
 - d. Unlimited terms
2. How many members serve in the Michigan State Senate?
 - a. 38
 - b. 110
 - c. 56
 - d. 29
3. What is a common reason as to why some believe that term limits have been a detriment to Michigan?
 - a. They contribute to a decline in institutional knowledge and historical perspective
 - b. They strain Michigan's pension and retirement system
 - c. They cause constituents to have a hard time remembering the name of their legislator
 - d. All of the above
4. Which of the following factors does not contribute to Michigan's lessening congressional influence?
 - a. Incumbent defeats
 - b. An aging congressional delegation
 - c. Congressional retirements
 - d. All of the above
5. If the legislature and the governor are not able to adopt a redistricting plan by Nov. 1, 2011, who must intervene?
 - a. The United States Supreme Court
 - b. Michigan voters
 - c. The Michigan Supreme Court
 - d. A conference committee
6. How often does the Michigan Constitution require citizens be asked whether or not to hold a constitutional convention?
 - a. Every four years
 - b. Every 10 years
 - c. Every 16 years
 - d. Every 20 years
7. If voters approve the question of holding a constitutional convention, delegates to the convention must create a new governing document altogether.
 - a. True
 - b. False
8. Which individual is running for the U.S. House of Representatives this fall?
 - a. Arnold Vinick
 - b. Mark Schauer
 - c. Andrew Shepherd
 - d. Stevens T. Mason
9. What items could be addressed if voters approve the question of holding a constitutional convention?
 - a. Michigan's structural deficit
 - b. Provisions within the current constitution that could be in conflict with the courts
 - c. A part-time legislature
 - d. Items affecting pharmacy such as reimbursement and sales, income and property taxes
 - e. All of the above
10. When is Election Day?
 - a. Oct. 28, 2010
 - b. Nov. 2, 2010
 - c. Dec. 1, 2010
 - d. Jan. 2, 2011

Election 2010: Make Sure to Exercise Your (Inexplicit) Right to Vote

September 2010 Enrollment Form
 ACEP No. 112-000-10-008-H04-P
 PTCE No. 112-000-10-924-H04-T

■ The passing score on each test is 70 percent. Upon successful completion of the test, MPA will mail you a continuing education statement of credit. A failed test may be retaken only once without additional cost within 30 days upon notification of a failing score. There are no refunds for failed tests.
 ■ The quiz may be taken anytime until Sept. 5, 2013. Membership status will be certified using MPA records. Checks must accompany quiz — MPA will not bill you or correct the test unless the proper fee is enclosed.

■ This article offers 1.0 contact hour of continuing education. This lesson was developed specifically for pharmacists and certified pharmacy technicians.
 ■ Send the answer sheet with your check made payable to: **Michigan Pharmacists Association, 408 Kalamazoo Plaza, Lansing, MI 48933**. Please allow four weeks for processing.

Name _____ MPA ID# _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Signature _____

I enclose: Member Fee....\$7 Nonmember Fee....\$15
 Please indicate if you are a Pharmacist Certified Pharmacy Technician
 PCE EVALUATION — Circle the appropriate rating number for items 1 through 4.

1. What is your evaluation of the article you read?
 Poor 1 2 3 4 5 Excellent
2. The author's coverage of the subject material was:
 Incomplete 1 2 3 4 5 Complete
3. How useful will the content of this article be in your practice?
 Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very

4. To what degree did the article meet the stated objectives?
 - Discuss proposals that will be included on the 2010 Michigan fall ballot.
 Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very
 - List the arguments of whether or not to hold a constitutional convention.
 Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very
 - Describe the impact of congressional turnover.
 Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very
 - Explain how pharmacy professionals play a vital role in seeing that pharmacy priorities are achieved with the next legislature.
 Not at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very

Answer Sheet Instructions

Please write the letter of the correct answer to each question in the space provided.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ 10. _____

What other topics would you like to see presented in MPA's home study articles? _____