

Michigan Chamber of Commerce Endorses Clark Bisbee for Congress in the 7th District

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The Michigan Chamber of Commerce Federal Political Action Committee announced today its endorsement of Clark Bisbee for U.S. Congress in Michigan's 7th District.

"Clark Bisbee has the campaign skills, political base and work ethic to win the August Republican Primary," said Jim Barrett, President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber. "Clark Bisbee is pro-business, pro-jobs and pro-taxpayer. He'll be an outstanding Congressman for the people of the 7th District."

The Michigan Chamber's endorsement of Bisbee completed a process which included a 90-minute, six-candidate debate and hour-long interviews with five of six candidates in the Republican Primary field.

In addition, the Chamber reviewed the state legislative voting records of five of those six candidates. The Chamber also reviewed the progress of each candidate's campaign and their Federal Election Commission financial filings.

Clark Bisbee, a three-term state representative, has an 89 percent cumulative voting record with the Michigan Chamber. His campaign has attracted the highest number of individual contributors within the 7th District and the most in business PAC contributions among the primary candidates.

Clark Bisbee is a successful business owner in Jackson, Michigan. After achieving a business degree from Albion College, Bisbee had an early career in banking. He started his own company, Bisbee Infrared, and later took over and expanded the family travel business. Bisbee is active in his local chamber, and other community organizations.

Bisbee's legislative leadership underscores that business background. He is Chairman of the House Commerce Committee and Co-Chairman of the Joint Committee on Business Competitiveness.

In his three terms in office, Clark Bisbee has sponsored or co-sponsored important economic development legislation that has saved jobs, cut costs and made Michigan more business friendly. Examples include legislation to:

- * Reduce the Single Business Tax from 2.3 percent to 1.9 percent;
- * Cut the state income tax rate from 4.4 percent to 4.0 percent;
- * Enact Brownfield Redevelopment legislation;
- * Develop downtown areas by enacting Renaissance Zone/Core City Legislation, which helped Consumers Energy build its new world headquarters in Jackson;
- * Redefine the sales/use tax exemption

Bisbee's political career began with an underdog victory in 1998, when he defeated the son of the retiring state representative, who was also the mayor of Jackson. That Jackson house district had been represented by a Democrat for 26 years before Bisbee's election.

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce is a statewide business organization which represents more than 6,300 employers, trade associations and local chambers of commerce. The Michigan Chamber was established in 1959 to be an advocate for Michigan's job providers in the legislative, political and legal process.

SOURCE: Michigan Chamber of Commerce

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