Michigan District 8:

~ city & suburbs & rural communities ~

ELISSA SLOTKIN

By Maya Aronoff
“Together, we will re-establish our politics for the better by returning the core principles of civility and problem-solving!”

ELECTED

WEALTH: median household income $71,702
EDUCATION: 95% of 25+ population has high school diploma +
RACE: 85% white; 6% black, 5% Hispanic, 4.4% Asian

ELECTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Elected</th>
<th>Runner-Up</th>
<th>Presidential Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Slotkin 50.6% *wins primary by 70%</td>
<td>Bishop 46.8%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Bishop 56%</td>
<td>Shkreli 39.2%</td>
<td>Trump 51% (Clinton 44%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Bishop 54.6%</td>
<td>Schertzing 42.1%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Rogers 58.6%</td>
<td>Enderle 37.3%</td>
<td>Romney 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Rogers 64.1%</td>
<td>Enderle 34.3%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Rogers 56.5%</td>
<td>Alexander 40.2%</td>
<td>Obama 53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ELECTORATE

- WEALTH: median household income $71,702
- EDUCATION: 95% of 25+ population has high school diploma +
- RACE: 85% white; 6% black, 5% Hispanic, 4.4% Asian

https://ballotpedia.org/Michigan%27s_8th_Congressional_District_election,_2018
https://censusreporter.org/profiles/50000US2608-congressional-district-8-mi/
Existing Research: What Impacts Immigration Policy?

District party voting rates/polarization → mostly Republican voting district correlates w/ restrictive policies (Ramakrishnan et al. 2010; Wong 2012; Casellas and Leal 2013)

Demographics
- % foreign born population → somewhat more accepting policies (Wong 2014)
- % Latino population → higher % Latino population correlates to more accepting policies, unless % Latinos in a Republican district is growing which correlates to more restrictive policies (Wong 2014)

Representative
- Party of representative → R correlates with restrictive policies; D correlates with more accepting policies (Wong 2014; Wong 2017; Casellas and Leal 2013)
- First term representative → likely to vote to fund DHS (Valenzuela 2019)
- D representative in a polarized district → likely to vote to fund DHS (Valenzuela 2019)
Predictions on Immigration Policy

Characteristics | Correlation with Restrictive/Accepting Policy | Citation
--- | --- | ---
8.6% Foreign Born Population (50% from Asia, 14% Hispanic) | R | (Wong 2014)
Overall 5% Hispanic population | MIXED IMPLICATIONS | (Wong 2014)
Republican-leaning district but by a small margin | R with MIXED IMPLICATIONS | (Wong 2012, (Ramakrishnan et. al. 2010) (Wong 2012) (Casellas and Leal 2013)
Democratic representative | A | (Wong 2014, Wong 2017, Casellas and Leal 2013)
New representative | R | (Valenzuela 2019)
Democratic representative of a Republican-leaning district | R | (Valenzuela 2019)

Literature suggests Slotkin may support moderately restrictive immigration policies, but does not necessarily predict whether she will focus on the issue.
**Voting Record:**

*Did not sponsor or vote on any immigration bills, except Voted “yea” HJRes1 (appropriations for DHS, to reopen the government)*

Instead: Co-sponsored HR8 (Bipartisan Background Checks) and voted “yea” on a series of Democrat-proposed legislation including rejecting white supremacy, overriding Trump’s national emergency, legislation on transportation, housing, urban development, the environment, and raising pay for government workers (VoteSmart)

**Social Media:**

- 6 tweets on immigration/border security
  - 2 were emphasizing the need to reopen the government for federal workers
  - 1 opposed family separation

---

**Priorities**

Campaign website lists 16 priorities (none are immigration-related). The top three are Affordable Healthcare, Affordable Prescription Drugs, and Combating the Opioid Epidemic. [https://elissaforcongress.com/priorities/](https://elissaforcongress.com/priorities/)

“My mom died in 2011 of ovarian cancer and she did not have health care when she was diagnosed...When I watched Mr. Bishop vote to repeal protections for people with pre-existing conditions in May of 2017, that broke me, and I decided to get in this race.”

---

Emphasizes immigration as a moral, economic, and security issue, supporting: increased border patrol agents and border control technology; immigration “keyed” to our economy and agricultural labor; pathway to citizenship for DACA kids; and asylum to those fleeing persecution.

—interview for *The Oakland Press*