

Christiana Reynolds, House District 108

- 1. Why are you interested in serving the people, families, and businesses in northern Michigan?**

Northern Michigan is my home, and I am deeply committed to ensuring a prosperous future for our region. I'm driven by the challenges that families and small businesses face here—particularly in education, childcare, housing, and economic development. I believe that by serving the people of northern Michigan, I can be a part of the solution to these issues, ensuring a brighter future for our communities.

- 2. Describe three statewide strategies/policies that you would support to enhance economic growth in the region.**

First, expanding broadband access is essential to make northern Michigan a destination for remote work and digital businesses. Second, I support increasing funding for public transit, connecting rural communities with economic hubs to enhance mobility and job opportunities. Third, I advocate for expanding apprenticeship and internship programs, especially in emerging industries like renewable energy and technology, to provide hands-on experience for workers.

- 3. Describe the policies that you see being the most effective/ineffective at addressing the housing shortage in our region?**

The most effective policies include tax credits and incentives for developers who build affordable housing units, and expanding rental assistance programs to help low-income families. Ineffective policies have been those that focus only on short-term fixes without addressing systemic issues like zoning laws or the lack of incentives for building in rural areas.

4. What statewide policies best support talent retention and attraction in Northern Michigan?

Policies that invest in higher-paying jobs, particularly in technology and remote work, are key to retaining talent. Additionally, expanding access to affordable housing and quality education ensures that young families are able to settle and thrive in our region. Lastly, offering student loan forgiveness for graduates who stay in or move to northern Michigan can help attract talent.

5. How will you work to increase access to affordable and quality childcare?

I will advocate for Universal Pre-K, grants to lower the operational costs of daycare centers, and tax incentives for businesses that provide childcare support. Additionally, I will push for early childhood development programs in high schools to help train the next generation of childcare professionals and expand access in underserved areas.

6. What are your solutions for supporting businesses being affected directly by inflation and supply chain costs?

To support businesses, I would push for state grants and tax incentives to offset inflation and supply chain challenges. Additionally, expanding local production capabilities, encouraging business collaboration through cooperatives, and improving logistics infrastructure would mitigate supply chain issues while supporting small businesses in northern Michigan.