

MI-04 District Primer

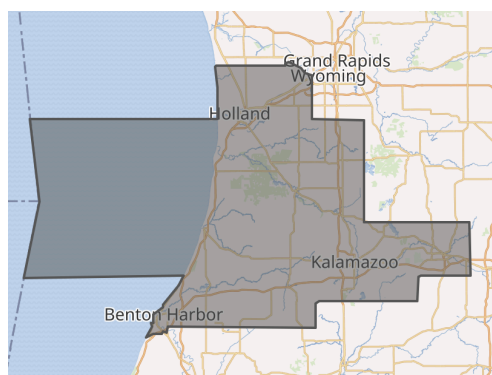
In 2024, Republican Bill Huizenga won this seat by 49,848 votes. Put another way, Dems lost by *just 14 votes per precinct*. *That's close!* If we can persuade just 15 voters per precinct, we can win this year. With your help, we're going to **FLIP** this key seat and secure a Democratic House majority in 2026.

Key dates
Filing Deadline: April 21
Primary: August 4
Midterms: November 3

Recent Election Results

2024 Presidential Election	2024 House Election	2022 House Election
Harris: 201,773 (46.5%) Trump: 225,809 (52%)	Huizenga (R): 234,489 (55.1%) Swartz (D): 184,641 (43.4%)	Huizenga (R): 183,936 (54.4%) Alfonso (D): 143,690 (42.4%)

District Facts & Stats



Largest Cities

- Kalamazoo: 73,126
- Battle Creek: 52,175
- Portage (PÖRT-ij): 49,302

Geography

Located in southwestern Michigan, MI-04 is a relatively compact district that includes roughly 70 miles of Lake Michigan coastline. The district's northern end touches the suburbs of Grand Rapids, and extends southward to Benton Harbor. It comprises the counties of Allegan and Van Buren and portions of Berrien, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and Ottawa. Battle Creek is densely suburban, while Kalamazoo is more urban, with a dense city center.

Citizenry

The demographics of this district hew closely to those of the state. The population is 77% white, 7% Black, and 9% Hispanic, and the median annual household income is \$72.4K. Agriculture leads employment in the district's rural areas, while medical technologies and manufacturing are important sources of jobs in the mid-sized towns and cities.

The Local Vibe

Key local concerns include lasting effects of tariffs, service and benefit cuts, and immigration enforcement. The district has been redistricted multiple times and statewide elections this fall will include replacing the popular, term-limited Governor Whitmer along with a raft of other positions; these factors make high turnout likely, and difficult to compare to past cycles.

Michiganders in the district are concerned about the impacts of tariffs on the auto and manufacturing sectors, and were taken aback when Kalamazoo was threatened with federal withholding for being a DHS-designated "sanctuary jurisdiction." The district's residents have turned out in the thousands for No Kings rallies to protest this treatment, and the neglect of their current Rep.

Sign up for another event: mobilize.us/swingleft

Updated April 2026 • Researched and edited by Swing Left's all-volunteer research team

Key Issues

- **Threats to essential services:** Tens of thousands in the district rely on SNAP or are enrolled in Medicaid. DOGE cuts to area programs and organizations significantly impacted the district, such as rescinding federal grants that would have supported housing access and affordability for hundreds in Kalamazoo.
 - **ICE Detention:** A correctional center in Battle Creek houses over 600 ICE detainees; this facility held Ricardo Prada Vasquez, a Venezuelan immigrant who was deported to El Salvador (and whose whereabouts were only uncovered after coverage from the *New York Times*).
 - **Tariffs:** Michigan retailers have changed or delayed orders, and over two-thirds have raised prices as a direct result of the ongoing tariff regime. Local auto parts suppliers, a cultural economic staple of the state, have expressed particular concern about the impact on their business.
-

About the Candidates

Bill Huizenga | GOP Incumbent

Born in 1969 in Zeeland to Dutch-American parents, **Bill Huizenga** is a former business owner and Michigan native. He attended Calvin College and worked in real estate before he began his career in politics as an aide to Rep. Pete Hoekstra in 1996. Married with five children, he lives in Holland.

Huizenga served in the Michigan House of Representatives for three terms in the early 2000s, then succeeded Rep. Hoekstra as Representative for the solidly Republican MI-02 in 2010.

Huizenga represented MI-02 from 2010 until 2022, when he began his first of two terms in the newly redistricted MI-04.

Huizenga styles himself a bipartisan leader focused on fiscal policy. Despite his image as a responsible, business-centric politician, Huizenga has expressed radical personal and political views. He supported Trump's tariffs on Canada, signed onto the amicus brief to challenge the 2020 Presidential election results, voted against codifying *Obergefell*, and repeatedly endorsed a state representative infamous for her disgraceful homophobic comments.

Sean McCann | Democratic Challenger

While the primary for MI-04 is not until August, the candidate below leads the field by a significant margin, and may be considered the presumptive nominee.

Formerly Director of Financial Development for the Kalamazoo Red Cross, **Sean McCann** served in the Michigan House of Representatives from 2011 to 2015. He currently serves in the Michigan State Senate. His record in the state includes legislation to expand tax relief for working families, and securing record investment in public education. His campaign for the U.S. House is focused on similar ideals, supporting small businesses and improving affordability for working-class Michiganders. His record and his campaign have secured endorsements from the popular incumbent Governor Whitmer and from Rep. Hilary Scholten (MI-03), who flipped a Republican stronghold district in 2018.

The contrast: Sean McCann represents an opportunity for working-class Michiganders to see themselves in their representative. Sean McCann's worker-centric record—which has a 100% rating from the AFL-CIO—stands in stark contrast to Huizenga's focus on pinching pennies for the middle class while cutting taxes for the rich. McCann also supports basic rights and access to services, advocating for expansion of the Affordable Care Act and protection of a woman's right to choose.