

Hi, I'm state senator Tom Barrett and I am the Republican nominee for Michigan's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, which includes Lansing and the surrounding counties.

I apologize for not being able to attend tonight. I had a last-minute Senate obligation in Lansing this afternoon, but wanted to share a couple words with you tonight.

My background is in the US Army where I served 22 years. I deployed to Iraq, Kuwait, Guantanamo Bay, and South Korea. When I returned home, I learned to fly Blackhawk and Lakota helicopters for the Army. I am a lifelong Michigander, and I moved to this district 4 days after I came home from Iraq when my wife and I got married. Now we are raising our four kids together in Charlotte.

Currently, I serve in the Michigan legislature, where I have been an independent voice for my district, sponsoring more than 30 bipartisan bills that were signed into law. I fought for small businesses and against corporate welfare. I stood up for parents' rights, and to make sure my fellow veterans get the benefits they earned.

Families in Michigan are struggling. We have the highest inflation in 40 years, and the highest gas prices in Michigan history. My family is paying \$70 more each week for groceries alone. Interest rates have doubled, making it even harder for people to find affordable housing. Just as folks start getting back on their feet, the current economic state knocks them back on the ground.

Meanwhile crime has exploded and our streets are less secure. Lansing was actually listed as the 9<sup>th</sup> most dangerous city in America, and had a record breaking number of murders in 2021.

I am running for Congress because America is on the wrong track. I want to restore confidence in our government by focusing on the issues that matter to each of us in our daily lives. To get results that lower inflation, gas prices, and keep our communities safe.

I hope to earn your vote and I promise to focus on the things will strengthen our communities, not our political parties.

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