



Mark Zacharda *for* Your State Representative

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Mark Zacharda Announces Run for State Representative in New District 71

Local Farm Owner Launches 'Z for 71' Campaign to Provide People-Focused Representation for Shiawassee, Genesee, and Saginaw Counties

01/20/2022: OWOSSO, MI—It's the dawn of a new era in Michigan. And local small-farm owner Mark Zacharda is rising to meet the current challenges. Zacharda has formed a campaign committee, and is running as a Democrat to provide fair, responsible representation for the people of the newly redistricted State House District 71. The new district encompasses most of Shiawassee County, part of southern Saginaw County, and part of western Genesee County.

"As Michiganders, we have been knocked down, but we are building our way back up," Zacharda said, adding that as a product of District 71, he is eager to listen to the citizens of the district and provide responsible representation in the Michigan House of Representatives. "Hard work runs deep in my blood."

Zacharda, who was born in Lansing, grew up in Ovid on a dairy farm. The oldest of two sons, he enjoyed growing up in the country, helping his parents in operating the dairy farm and waking up early to milk cows, feed calves, and stack countless bales of hay. As someone deeply familiar with the trying and divisive times our state continues to endure, Zacharda wants to work to heal partisan wounds: "I'll sit down with anyone who's willing to put in the work to make Michigan and the 71st district a better place," he said. "I will be a protector of our democracy, working to be sure that the voice of the people is always heeded, just as our Constitution spells out."

In addition to the family farming tradition, Zacharda's family includes many proud union auto workers; manufacturing in his family goes back to Detroit in the early part of the 20th century, when his ancestors were immigrants to America for the promise of a better life. But he feels, like so many other Michiganders, how much that promise has faltered.

"My ancestors helped build up Michigan and enjoyed the benefits of a growing middle class," said Zacharda. "In the 71st district, that middle class is threatened, and I want to go to Lansing for the people who live and work here, to help revitalize it."

Zacharda has grown tired of watching politicians turn away from their constituents, and toward monied interests and lobbyists: "They say they'll work for the people and then work to cut taxes for the wealthy and bend the rules to ensure they remain in power," he said. "They rig government to work for the powerful—but in the right hands, government can be a vessel to create prosperity for all."



Mark Zacharda has pledged to work for the family, friends and neighbors he grew up with. He aims to foster economic growth, by using the skills and determination of the hard-working folks of this district.

He also aims to work to address the climate crisis in this state; as he knows on a personal level, those who work the soil are all too familiar with the concerning shifts in our local weather patterns. “We have been first-hand witnesses here in Mid-Michigan to a climate trend that has been identified by climate scientists as a signature of climate change: extremes. When it gets dry, it’s dry for weeks, when it’s wet, it’s way too wet,” he said. “Farmers in Michigan have a role to play in mitigating the concerning changes in our climate.”

“The people of this district know the greatness of Michigan—but have seen it diminish,” Zacharda said. “I will listen to those I serve, and will be consistent in always striving for equality for all walks of life, seeking to find the best benefits for the people of Michigan’s 71st District.”

“Working together, like generations before us, we will overcome the daunting problems of our time, because that’s what America is: a large nation of many that has always risen to meet challenges,” he said.