

JOHN JAMES SELECTS REPRESENTATIVE DEBOYER AS RUNNING MATE – *U.S. Representative* and gubernatorial candidate *John James* has selected *Representative Jay DeBoyer (R-Clay)* as his running mate for the upcoming gubernatorial election.

The bigger picture: In an announcement posted on social media platform X, *U.S. Representative James* says that *Representative DeBoyer's* background in running a business, serving in local government and overseeing elections are key components in his choice. *U.S. Representative James* has until today at 5 p.m. to submit his running mate to the state. The pick will then be voted on by convention delegates on August 22.

To read more, please click [here](#).

NEW MEMBER PROFILES – As hinted to in last week's edition of *This Week in Lansing*, *MHSA* is starting a new, ongoing feature in *This Week in Lansing*: New Member Profiles.

This new feature is intended to introduce those that are expected to come to Lansing in 2027 given the safe seats they are running for. This is highlighting only new members in the *House* and *Senate*, so no incumbents will be highlighted. For the first edition of new member profiles, we will be highlighting the *1st, 2nd, 20th and 22nd Senate Districts*.

To read more, please click [here](#).

ELECTIONS

- Former *Vice President Kamala Harris* endorsed *Abdul El-Sayed* for *U.S. Senate* last Friday. *VP Harris* joined other *Democrats* in urging the party to come together in support ahead of the general election in November.
- The *Michigan Democratic Black Caucus* endorsed *Abdul El-Sayed* after previously supporting his primary opponent, *U.S. Representative Haley Stevens*. The caucus echoed the words of other groups and said that *Democrats* should unite rather than fight the primary results.
- The *Michigan Education Association* endorsed *Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson* after not endorsing any candidate in the primary election. The *MEA* review committee is unanimously recommending *SOS Benson* to be elected as the next *Governor*.

ODDS AND ENDS

- The *Department of Health and Human Services* announced that the income threshold for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program will be increasing by over \$1,500. A family of four can now qualify for the federal program with an income up to \$61,050. Roughly 187,000 Michigan residents benefit from the program monthly.
- The *Department of Health and Human Services* is looking to team up with local governments to address substance use disorder prevention, reduce overdose risk, expand treatment access, and support long-term recovery using opioid settlement money. Half of the \$1.8 billion that Michigan is to receive from the settlement will be distributed directly to local governments. To read the full press release, click [here](#).

