



Painters District Council No. 30

2024 General Election Endorsements

Election Day: November 5, 2024

U.S. PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

Kamala Harris/Tim Walz



Vice President Kamala Harris has spent her entire career – first as Attorney General of California, then as a U.S. Senator, then as Vice President – advocating for justice, protecting workers’ rights, giving a voice to the voiceless, and holding corporations and criminals accountable. Over the last four years, Kamala has been a strong partner in leading the most labor-friendly administration in recent history and is committed to continuing that record as President.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz truly embodies what it means to be a middle-class American. He was born and raised in a small town, served his country in the National Guard, and built a successful career as a social studies teacher, union member (National Education Association), and football coach before joining the U.S. Congress and becoming Governor. He understands middle America because he comes from middle America.

Together as President and Vice President, Kamala and Tim promise to expand the middle class and create an “opportunity economy” that works for everyone.

U.S. CONGRESS

Robin Kelly, District 2 (Incumbent)



Robin has dedicated her career to advocating on behalf of Illinois families. She has fought to promote job creation by advancing jobs bills for working families, prioritizing job training opportunities, and hosting job fairs in her district. She is a vocal leader with a 98% lifetime voting record on issues important to labor and working families.

Delia Ramirez, District 3 (Incumbent)



Delia is an accomplished social service director and community leader who has dedicated her career to advocating for working families. In Congress, she will fight for affordable housing, public school funding, healthcare for all, and community-centered economic development.

Mike Quigley, District 5 (Incumbent)



Mike is a strong advocate for constructive infrastructure spending and job creation, and an outspoken opponent of right-to-work laws that negatively affect union members. He uses his experience as former Cook County Commissioner to fight for accountability and good government in Congress.

Sean Casten, District 6 (Incumbent)



Sean is a respected scientist and independent voice for the values of the middle class. He fights for job creation, economic opportunity for all, and responsible ways to reduce the deficit. In Congress, he advocates for sensible, targeted investment that spurs economic development and job creation.

Raja Krishnamoorthi, District 8 (Incumbent)



In Congress, Raja focuses on strengthening the middle class by supporting small businesses, rebuilding our infrastructure, and protecting Social Security and Medicare. He believes the economy works best when it works for everyone, and he fights to make college more affordable, expand access to paid sick and parental leave, and guarantee equal pay for equal work.

Jan Schakowsky, District 9 (Incumbent)



Jan has served Illinois’ 9th Congressional District since 1998. She is often referred to as a champion for our nation’s seniors, spearheading the Task Force on Aging and Families and continuing the fight to save Social Security and Medicare. Jan is committed to protecting health care, creating jobs, and restoring the middle class.

Brad Schneider, District 10 (Incumbent)



Brad focuses on strengthening the middle class, protecting the environment, and helping small businesses grow. He believes long-term investments in infrastructure will provide the necessary foundation for business development across the nation. He promises to remain steadfast in his commitment to a stronger, thriving middle class.

Bill Foster, District 11 (Incumbent)



Bill has a proven record of fighting for working people every day and is a strong friend to labor. He protects the middle class by fighting for good-paying jobs, preserving fair wages for workers, opposing tax breaks for companies that move jobs offshore, and standing against tax cuts that only help the richest Americans.

Nikki Budzinski, District 13 (Incumbent)



Nikki is a close labor ally who has spent her career fighting for workers and middle-class families. As the Governor’s Senior Advisor on Labor Issues, she led the charge to raise the minimum wage in Illinois. Nikki is focused on investing in early childhood education, lowering healthcare and prescription drug costs, prioritizing apprenticeships and skills training, and investing in mental health services.

Lauren Underwood, District 14 (Incumbent)



Lauren is focused on strengthening economic security and opportunity for working families, protecting the environment, ensuring affordable healthcare, and ending gun violence. She supports a broad approach to job creation and advocates for strategic investments in local transportation infrastructure and biomedical and scientific research.

Eric Sorensen, District 17 (Incumbent)



Eric is a meteorologist and weatherman who built his career on a desire to protect his neighbors and his Rockford community. He is committed to addressing rising costs, creating sustainable jobs, expanding access to quality and affordable health care, and investing in public education.

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

Cristina Castro, District 22 (Incumbent)



Cristina has stood up for working families and is not afraid to ask tough questions. She has reached across the aisle on the issues that matter most to the people in her district and works in a bipartisan fashion to help solve problems and to move Illinois in the right direction while protecting the values of the middle class and organized labor.

Karina Villa, District 25 (Incumbent)



The daughter of immigrant parents, Karina is a tireless advocate for quality education, affordable healthcare, immigrant rights, and environmental protections. She uses her professional background, leadership, and life experience to collaborate through compassionate conversation. Karina is committed to listening to the voices of her constituents and ensuring effective representation.

Laura Murphy, District 28 (Incumbent)



Laura has over two decades of experience in health care and social services. Her working-class background and professional experience inform her views on government that should work toward the betterment of the people and reinforce her belief in the importance of education, public safety, and fighting corruption in government.

Mary Edly-Allen, District 31 (Incumbent)



Mary is a teacher, single mother, and community leader. She is proud to support initiatives that invest in our youth's future, protect the environment, and fight for working families. Mary is not afraid to work across the aisle in a bipartisan manner to get things done.

Steve Stadelman, District 34 (Incumbent)



Steve is an award-winning TV news anchor who was first elected to the Illinois Senate in 2012. During his tenure as State Senator, he has fought for innovative funding for economic development initiatives; worked to safeguard responsible bidder practices; and fought to protect Illinois consumers, victims of abuse, and college students.

Patrick Joyce, District 40 (Incumbent)



Patrick is determined to promote the right values and priorities in Springfield. He serves in the Illinois Senate to make sure all of his constituents' voices are heard, from making health care more accessible and affordable to standing up for our small businesses that create jobs and support our families.

Dave Koehler, District 46 (Incumbent)



Dave is a longtime friend of labor who believes that strong relationships are key to resolving important issues. He has worked to obtain state resources to fund development initiatives impacting communities. He is willing to make the decisions necessary to ensure that sustainable jobs are created for working families and schools have adequate resources.

Meg Loughran Cappel, District 49 (Incumbent)



As a special education teacher, small business owner, AFT-IFT Local 604 union representative, and school board member, Meg is heavily involved in the community she serves. In Springfield, she will continue to advocate on behalf of working families for affordable healthcare and a strong public education system.

ILLINOIS STATE HOUSE

Emanuel "Chris" Welch, District 7 (Incumbent)



Speaker Welch is focused on investing in vocational training, improving classroom education, creating equitable workplaces, and increasing healthcare access. As Speaker of the Illinois House, he worked to turn the state's debt into a surplus budget and improve the state's credit rating for the first time in decades.

Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz, District 17 (Incumbent)



Jennifer is committed to standing up for shared values, fighting for the voiceless, and demanding government accountability. She will continue to fight for funding for public education and access to important, life-saving mental health services.

Jaime Andrade, District 40 (Incumbent)



First elected in 2014, Jamie is a long-time community leader and resident of the Irving Park neighborhood. He is the creator and first chair of the new House Cybersecurity, Data Analytics & IT Committee, established to oversee legislation which seeks to protect the people of Illinois from cyber threats, maintain privacy, and expand opportunity in today's digital world.

Janet Yang Rohr, District 41 (Incumbent)



Janet is a mother, business leader, school board member, and long-time Naperville resident committed to putting middleclass families first. As state representative, she uses her background in finance and accounting to reduce the tax burden facing hardworking families and help make health care and education more affordable.

Terra Costa Howard, District 42 (Incumbent)



Terra advocates for children, seniors, the disabled, and families in need. She served eight years on Glen Ellyn's District 41 School Board. Terra's experiences as an attorney gives her a unique understanding of the problems facing Illinois residents, and the role the government plays in strengthening the community.

Anna Moeller, District 43 (Incumbent)



Anna is a leader with integrity and a talent for policymaking. She is committed to working with local residents, Republicans, Democrats, businesses, and labor organizations to strengthen the local economy, put middle class families back to work, and streamline the budget to save tax dollars while protecting vital programs that local residents depend on, like education, health care, public safety, and services for seniors and veterans.

Fred Crespo, District 44 (Incumbent)



Fred strongly believes in policy that supports and protects working families, and he credits unions for keeping our economy strong. Fred fights for a budget that protects our most vulnerable citizens and encourages economic development throughout the state.

Martha "Marti" Deuter, District 45



Martha is a lawyer with experience drafting legislation supporting families with increased healthcare costs. She advocates for more affordable healthcare and better access to low-cost prescription drugs and promises to work tirelessly to ensure that every child receives a quality education and continued community support into adulthood.

Diane Blair-Sherlock, District 46 (Incumbent)



Diane is committed to investing in essential workers and first responders as a means to strengthen the middle class. As a self-employed attorney and wife to a Teamster, she understands the benefits of organized labor and aims to expand access to good paying jobs with benefits.

Jackie Williamson, District 47



Jackie is an experienced advocate for employees' healthcare benefits, due in part to her successful career in human resources. She values consistency, fairness, strong ethics, and working with others to achieve success. She is looking to deliver results, not just talking points.

Jennifer Sanalidro, District 48 (Incumbent)



Jennifer has experience working with large and small businesses as a District Sales Training Manager. She advocates for Illinois by supporting policies that close the education gap and keep tax rates low, communities safe, and businesses prospering.

Maura Hirschauer, District 49 (Incumbent)



Maura is a mother, activist, community organizer, and former elementary educator. She is committed to fostering and maintaining an economy that works for working-class families and will continue to lead in fiscal responsibility, fighting for affordable healthcare, equitable schools, and common sense measures to end gun violence.

Barbara Hernandez, District 50 (Incumbent)



Barbara has focused on quality education and making Illinois safer and healthier by fighting for common sense gun laws, access to more affordable health care, and better, high-wage jobs. In her time in Springfield, she has distinguished herself as an independent voice for her Aurora-based district.

Maria Peterson, District 52



Maria is a former attorney with the U.S. Department of Labor who now spends her time as a volunteer lobbyist. Maria actively fights for women's rights, keeping streets safe, and improving law enforcement and the judicial system.

Marty Moylan, District 55 (Incumbent)



Marty is a retired IBEW Local 134 Business Representative who first joined the Illinois House in 2012. His legislative priorities include education, consumer protection, workers' rights, and protecting children from gun violence. Marty promises to ensure District 55 remains a strong, vibrant community centered on working class family values.

Michelle Mussman, District 56 (Incumbent)



Michelle is committed to creating jobs that will put people back to work, increasing access to quality education and affordable childcare, investing in infrastructure, and increasing access to Medicaid. She strives to work in a bipartisan manner to reach compromises that will move the state forward.

Linda Robertson, District 65



Linda is a mother, IT consultant, and microbiologist who will listen to voters and work collaboratively with representatives throughout the state to solve complex problems. She advocates for building healthier communities by investing in education, jobs, infrastructure, and childcare.

Suzanne Ness, District 66 (Incumbent)



Suzanne is a small business owner, previous county board member, and mother who brings common sense solutions to Springfield. Coming from a working-class family, she understands the hardships that many families in the 66th District face. Suzanne will work to improve our infrastructure and increase access to important community services.

Maurice West II, District 67 (Incumbent)



Maurice is running for re-election in the 67th District. He is heavily involved in his Rockford community and makes it his priority to be accessible to his constituents. Maurice will work to decrease the skills gap so that Rockford becomes a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Dave Vella, District 68 (Incumbent)



Dave is a Rockford native that represents constituents of the 68th District with a "community first" mindset. He is committed to strengthening the local economy by creating jobs that pay a living wage, investing in infrastructure to attract new businesses, and partnering with labor unions to incorporate skilled trades curriculum in middle schools and high schools.

Amy "Murri" Briel, District 76



Amy is an Illinois Valley native who has been active in her party by working on political campaigns and public strategy. She prioritizes workers' rights, healthcare, and human rights and hopes to lead with passion to make a difference in the lives of those she represents.

Norma Hernandez, District 77 (Incumbent)



Norma is seeking re-election to the 77th District seat in the Illinois State House. Prior to public service, she was an Urban Planner for the Great Cities Institute at UIC. She is dedicated to supporting small businesses in her district and creating economic opportunities for all residents.

Anne Stava-Murray, District 81 (Incumbent)



Anne was first elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in November, 2018. She promises to focus on the key issues affecting residents in her district, including increasing health and safety, strengthening public education, ensuring economic opportunity, and creating financial stability for Illinois.

Matt Hanson, District 83 (Incumbent)



Matt is a member of the SMART rail workers union and a dedicated public servant who understands the needs of middle-class working families. He promises to continue prioritizing the values of and to better address the concerns of families within the 83rd District.

Stephanie Kifowit, District 84 (Incumbent)



Stephanie is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran focused on promoting growth for local area businesses, improving infrastructure, creating jobs, and balancing the state's budget. Her background as a substitute teacher has led to her strong commitment to building successful schools and communities. She has also led efforts to improve opportunities for women in construction careers.

Larry Walsh Jr., District 86 (Incumbent)



Larry was born and raised in Elwood and has served District 86 for 12 years. Previously, he was a liability representative and served as a Jackson Township Board Trustee for seven years. He is focused on healthcare, energy and environmental priorities, and prescription drug affordability.

Sharon Chung, District 91 (Incumbent)



Sharon is a teacher and union member (American Federation of Musicians, AFM, Local 301) who works tirelessly in Springfield on behalf of working families in Central Illinois. She is committed to reducing healthcare costs, strengthening education, and building a stronger middle class.

Jehan Gordon-Booth, District 92 (Incumbent)



Jehan has dedicated much of her public service to education and criminal justice reform. Her commitment to preserving people's dignity and their ability to contribute to their communities informs her push for reform in education, the tax code, sentencing regulation, re-entry programming, and economic opportunity.

Sue Scherer, District 96 (Incumbent)



Sue is a former public-school teacher who has represented the 96th District since 2013. As a lifelong resident of Macon County, she brings common sense leadership to Springfield and works with members of both parties to improve public safety, strengthen schools, restore fiscal balance, and create jobs.

Harry Benton, District 97 (Incumbent)



Harry is a member of Ironworkers Local 444 and a former Trustee for the Village of Plainfield. He focuses on lowering property taxes, helping small businesses succeed, creating more jobs, and building stronger local economies. He is also a strong proponent for expanding quality healthcare for local families, children, seniors, and veterans.

Natalie Manley, District 98 (Incumbent)



Natalie is a certified public accountant who draws upon her strong financial background to make fiscal responsibility in state government a priority. She advocates for creating jobs for residents, affordable college tuition, and legislation to freeze property taxes.

Morgan Phillips, District 105



Morgan is running for office as a voice for the future. While only 24 years old, she has been involved in political advocacy from a young age, most recently serving as president of the IVCC College Democrats and campaign manager for Lance Yednock following her graduation from SIUC in 2022.

Jay Hoffman, District 113 (Incumbent)



Jay is a former prosecutor and law enforcement official who puts Illinois' families first. He currently serves as Assistant Majority Leader. He is committed to protecting our jobs, our schools, our seniors, and our veterans, and believes in cutting state spending, closing corporate tax loopholes, and increasing tax rates on multi-millionaires so they pay their fair share.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Kelli Wegener, McHenry County Board District 5 (Incumbent)



Kelli is a former bank auditor who has served on the board for six years. She is focused on maintaining fiscal responsibility, providing mental health and addiction services, addressing women's health issues, and practicing responsible economic development. Kelli has a long history of volunteering within her community, encouraging residents to get involved as well.

Corinne M. Pierog, Kane County Board Chair (Incumbent)



Corinne is a long-time resident of Kane County, having served two terms on the St. Charles D303 Board of Education, and later appointed to the IL Business Enterprise Program Council under Governor Pat Quinn. Corinne prioritizes fiscal responsibility, a collaborative government, improving roads and infrastructure, and public and mental health.

Theresa E. Barreiro, Kane County Circuit Clerk (Incumbent)



Theresa is currently the Circuit Clerk for Kane County and previously served as a Board Member for District 2. She continues to build a foundation of open communication, improve court fee collection process, and implement a system of checks and balances that support the jury's needs effectively. Theresa has built her campaign on transparency and accountability.

Penny Wegman, Kane County Auditor (Incumbent)



Penny has previously served as Treasurer for the Kane County Forest Preserve and Vice Co-Chair of the Kane County Democratic Women Organization. She is currently seeking re-election. Penny has lived in Elgin since 1980 and she is a Certified Illinois Assessment Officer through the Illinois Department of Revenue.

Monica Silva, Kane County Coroner



Monica currently serves as Kane County Board member for District 7 and is running unopposed for Kane County Coroner. She is a dedicated public servant with extensive experience in local politics and community service.

Marisela Villegas, Kane County Recorder



Marisela is a lifelong Aurora resident who is committed to using technology to provide the highest level of customer service while ensuring a low cost of operations. She has worked at the Recorder's office and understands the functions and duties of the position.

Jamie Mosser, Kane County State's Attorney (Incumbent)



Jamie has a background as a prosecutor for Kane County and was elected as Kane County State's Attorney in 2020. She prioritizes strengthening rehabilitation courts and diversion programs, protecting domestic violence survivors, training for law enforcement, government transparency, and community involvement.

Dale Berman, Kane County Board District 2 (Incumbent)



Dale is currently serving as a board member for District 2. Prior to this seat, he served as the Mayor for the Village of North Aurora for 16 years, and has served on various other boards and committees throughout his public service.

Mavis Bates, Kane County Board District 4 (Incumbent)



Mavis has spent many years serving the Aurora community. She prioritizes healthy and safe communities, union jobs, veterans, and eliminating high property taxes. Mavis is the founder of Aurora Green Fest and previously served as a Fox Valley Park District Commissioner.

Sonia Garcia, Kane County Board District 6



Sonia is an Aurora native who is focused on issues that affect all residents, such as public health and senior care. She understands the important role that board members play in county government, and vows to represent her district to the best of her ability.

Michelle Gumz, Kane County Board District 8 (Incumbent)



Michelle worked for the Aurora Police Department as a 911 dispatcher for roughly 20 years and is currently representing District 8 on the Kane County Board. She looks forward to continuing to serve the residents of her district with honesty and integrity.

William "Bill" Tarver, Kane County Board District 10 (Incumbent)



Bill has lived in Illinois his whole life and previously served as the treasurer of a nonprofit organization for 10 years. His goal is for Kane County to become the number one choice for people to live, work, and raise their families. Bill supports fiscally responsible decisions, affordable education, and mental health needs.

Ricky Rivard, Kane County Board District 12



Ricky has been a Kane County resident for over 30 years, and is focused on putting people first. He is an adjunct professor at Elmhurst University and has spent more than 20 years in the service industry. Ricky prioritizes financial stewardship, LGBTQ+ rights, mental health advocacy, and road and pedestrian safety.

Brenda Engelhardt, Kane County Board District 14



Brenda has lived in Illinois for 27 years; she began her career as a librarian and later became a litigation paralegal. Brenda is an advocate for gun safety, mental health awareness, water conservation, and maintaining our forests and parks.

Ted Penesis, Kane County Board District 16



Ted is a lifelong friend to labor with extensive experience in both the public and private sector. He was born into a union family and is a proud resident of South Elgin. As a board member, Ted will fight to keep Kane County on the side of working families and middle class residents.

Sandy Kaczmariski, Kane County Board District 18



Sandy is an Elgin resident and former reporter with a desire to solve problems within her community. She aims to support new revenue sources and renewable energy, lessen or maintain tax rates, and support forest preserves.

Cherryl Fritz Strathmann, Kane County Board District 20 (Incumbent)



Cherryl is seeking re-election to the Kane County Board's 20th District seat. She previously served as Kane County Commissioner. A long-time activist within her community, Cherryl prioritizes clean energy jobs, strategic planning, economy and jobs, transportation, veterans, and forest preservation.

Verner "Vern" Tepe, Kane County Board District 22 (Incumbent)



Vern is currently serving on the Kane County Board for District 22 and previously served as a county board member and a trustee of Elgin Township. Vern will ensure that tax money is used wisely, residents are drinking clean water, seniors are given the help and support they need, and mental health is a priority.

Jarett Sanchez, Kane County Board District 24 (Incumbent)



Jarett is currently serving as the County Board member for District 24 in Kane County and is seeking re-election. He has previously served on the forest preserve district and planning and utilization committee, and looks forward to continuing his career in public service.

Frank Pobjcky, Winnebago County Board District 16



Frank is well known in Winnebago County for his heroic actions during an off-duty incident in 2011. He has begun getting involved in public service beyond law enforcement and is currently running for Winnebago County Board.

Brian DeBolt, Kendall County Board District 1 (Incumbent)



Brian is a retired building and grounds director for Yorkville School District and a retired volunteer EMT for the Little Rock Fire District. He is a proud voice for his district and is committed to ensuring community safety and government transparency.

Brian Dose, LaSalle County Board Chair



Brian has a history as a firefighter/paramedic and had served in the union for over 21 years. He currently serves as board member for LaSalle County's 21st district. As Chair, Brian promises government accountability and solutions for working families.

Joe Navarro, LaSalle County State's Attorney (Incumbent)



Joe is a lifelong LaSalle County resident who has been practicing law for over 40 years. He was most recently appointed State's Attorney in August 2022. Joe has significant Jury Trial experience and is a proud U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

Olivia Romine, LaSalle County Board District 19



Olivia is a lifelong Ottawa resident and a retired public-school teacher and union member. As a board member, she promises to support economic development and fair healthcare access, and she will always vote in favor of unions.

Fred Nimke, LaSalle County Board District 25



Fred is a retired union carpenter and business representative. He promises to support economic development, encourage more affordable housing, address pedestrian safety, and push for more transparency in local government.

Ashley Franciskovich, LaSalle County Auditor



Ashley is running to fill a vacancy for LaSalle County Auditor. She will strive to protect tax dollars and make a positive difference in her community.

Brad Popurella, Bureau County State's Attorney



Brad began his career as a prosecutor in LaSalle County State's Attorney's Office and currently serves as a public defender for Bureau County. He has extensive litigation experience and has argued before the Illinois Supreme Court.

Alexandria "Lexi" Wamhoff, Bureau County Coroner (Incumbent)



Lexi was appointed as Bureau County coroner in February 2024 and is running to retain the position. She graduated from DePaul University in Chicago and vows to build a reputation of service to her community based on trust, compassion, and respect.

JUDICIAL

Kimberly DiGiovanni, Judge of the Circuit Court 16th Judicial Circuit (Incumbent)



Kimberly was appointed to her current judicial position and previously served as an Associate Judge in Kane County. She is very active in the Kane County community, advocating for civility, professionalism, diversity, and inclusion both in and out of the courtroom.

Sandra Parga, Judge of the Circuit Court 16th Judicial Circuit, 4th Subcircuit (Incumbent)



Sandra has served as an associate Judge in Kane County since 2017. She is a 30-year resident of St. Charles, where she was a staff attorney and later became a public defender. Sandra has consistently received ratings of "Recommended" from the Illinois State Bar Association.

Lance Peterson, 3rd Appellate Justice (Incumbent)



Lance has served Grundy County under the capacity of Judicial Clerk, State's Attorney, Associate Judge, and Circuit Court Judge. He created the Grundy County Juvenile Justice Diversion Program and oversaw the creation of the Grundy County Mental Health Court, where he presided over cases for over 8 years.

Linda Davenport, 3rd Appellate Justice (Incumbent)



Linda grew up in LaGrange and has been a proud resident of Wheaton for 35 years. She started her own law firm in 1978 and was first appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court in 2022. Linda shares her community's core values and believes that everyone has the right to be heard in a fair and impartial way.

John Anderson, 3rd Appellate Justice



Judge Anderson has experience as a clerk for appellate courts, clerk for the Illinois Supreme Court, as well as experience as a circuit court judge. He is an accomplished legal writer and has earned much recognition for the work he has done. Judge Anderson cares deeply about protecting individual rights, including women's rights and service to the community.