NORTHERN MICHIGAN CHAMBER ALLIANCE

Elevating & advancing local business.

2026 Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance Candidate Questionnaire

Name: John Moolenaar
Email Contact: john@johnmoolenaarforcongress.com
Phone Contact: 989-600-4163
Campaign Website URL: www.johnmoolenaarforcongress.com

1. **Purpose and Responsibility**
   Why are you seeking this office, and how would you define the responsibility of the office to the people of northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula?

   I am running for reelection to stand up for our conservative values and deliver results for Michigan families. I will continue to protect the right to life, uphold the Second Amendment, ensure election integrity, and keep taxes low so families can keep more of what they earn.

   In Washington, I will defend our Constitution, secure the border, support law enforcement, and oppose tax increases. I will fight to strengthen our economy, lower the cost of living, expand homeownership opportunities, and bring manufacturing and critical supply chains back to America.

   Together, we can preserve our freedoms, create opportunity, and ensure a stronger future for the next generation.

2. **Jobs, Investment, and Competitiveness**
   What specific policies would you support or develop if elected, to ensure northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula can compete for jobs, investment, infrastructure, and other state and federal resources?

   Michigan families deserve an economy that rewards hard work, creates opportunity, and helps businesses succeed. I believe growth is driven by free markets, lower taxes, reduced regulations, responsible spending, affordable energy, and policies that encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment in American workers and manufacturers. I supported the Working Families Tax Cuts, which expanded energy production, made the 2017 tax cuts permanent, eliminated taxes on tips and overtime, expanded the child tax credit, enhanced tax relief for seniors, and put more money back into the pockets of hardworking Michiganders.

3. **Housing and Regional Partnerships**

NMCA's policy framework calls for housing solutions and regional partnerships to address the region's critical housing shortage. What policies or ideas do you have in which you can partner with the Alliance to make a positive impact?

Excessive federal regulations are negatively impacting our housing market. It costs builders more to build affordable homes and it costs Michigan families more to purchase homes. We need to curb government spending and reduce burdensome regulations in order to bring down inflation, lower costs and spur more development. I also support providing affordable housing incentives for builders.

4. **Workforce Development and Talent Attraction**
   What are your views on programs such as Going PRO, Michigan Reconnect, and talent attraction programs? What would you do to help attract, retain, train, and grow the workforce needed by northern Michigan and Upper Peninsula employers?

   Free markets, free enterprise, innovation, and entrepreneurship are the foundation for economic growth, job creation and retention in Michigan and America. In order for Michigan and our nation to maintain its world leading edge in both manufacturing and workforce talent, we must get the government out of the way, reduce burdensome federal regulations and let American ingenuity drive our economy forward so that our small businesses can hire new workers. We also need to make sure our residents have opportunities to acquire new career and technical skills for good-paying jobs here in our state.

5. **Childcare Access**
   Please describe your view of the need for childcare in the region, and what would you do to enhance access to this resource?

   As a Member of Congress, I have been proud to support bipartisan legislation that would allow non profit child care providers access to Small Business Administration loan programs not previously available to them. These loans through the SBA are larger and provide more flexibility to child care providers, giving them the ability to invest in their business, helping working families by providing additional opportunities for quality child care and promoting the creation of local jobs.

6. **Education Outcomes and Funding**
   What do you believe is the best action you could take to support growth in measurable outcomes for k-12 students in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula? How well is Michigan's funding of our higher education systems working, and would you make any changes to the way we fund education in this state?

   Parents should be the primary decision makers in their children's education. I believe families deserve transparency from schools and should always have access to information regarding their child's academic progress, curriculum, and well-being.

As a former school administrator, I saw firsthand how empowering parents and expanding educational opportunities can improve outcomes for students. That is why I remain a strong supporter of school choice and policies that allow families to select the educational environment that best meets their child's needs.

America's future depends on preparing students for success in an increasingly competitive global economy. We must strengthen STEM education, support career and technical training programs, and ensure students have pathways to high-paying careers in manufacturing, engineering, health care, and the skilled trades.

Students pursuing careers through apprenticeships, certifications, and technical programs deserve the same opportunities for financial assistance as those attending four-year universities. I will continue working to expand access to workforce development programs and make education more affordable for Michigan families.

As a father of six, I understand the challenges families face when planning for higher education. I will continue supporting accountability, affordability, and excellence in education while ensuring Michigan's universities remain leaders in research and innovation.

7. **Regulatory Climate and Small Business Growth**
   What regulations, permitting processes, taxes, mandates, or compliance burdens do you believe most limit small business growth in our region? What would you do to make our state's regulatory environment more predictable?

   At the federal level, I will continue to support regulatory reform and lower taxes to create an environment where small businesses and American manufacturers can grow, compete, and thrive.

8. **Affordability and Economic Vitality**
   What meaningful changes do you believe would help advance Michigan's economic vitality by making this state a more affordable place to live, work, and do business?

   Michigan families deserve a state where hard work goes further and the cost of living is lower. I believe making Michigan more affordable starts with policies that let families keep more of what they earn, reduce unnecessary government costs, ensure reliable and affordable energy, and create an environment where businesses can grow, invest, and create good-paying jobs. As I've previously stated, growth is driven by free markets, lower taxes, responsible spending, reduced regulations, and policies that encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment in American workers and manufacturers.

   That's why I supported the Working Families Tax Cuts, which put more money back into the pockets of hardworking Michiganders by making the 2017 tax cuts permanent, eliminating taxes on tips and overtime, expanding the child tax credit, enhancing tax

relief for seniors, and boosting domestic energy production to help lower costs for families. These policies help make Michigan a more affordable place to live, work, raise a family, and build a future.