



from the desk of
State Senator Mark Schauer

Dear Friend:

Michigan is in crisis. Due to the combination of a manufacturing industry devastated by unfair trade policies and the exploding cost of health care, the state is facing a \$3 billion budget shortfall. Short-sighted fiscal plans by previous legislatures have only deepened the problem, and now Michigan families are in serious danger.

Governor Granholm and I have made more tough cuts than any of our predecessors. We have eliminated nearly \$3 billion in spending over the last three years, and there are almost 10,000 less state employees than there were just six years ago. We will continue to make tough choices, but we are also committed to investing in Michigan's long-term success.

As legislators, we understand that resolving these budget issues in a way that protects our most urgent priorities is critical to our long-range plans to grow and transform our economy. But we need you to be part of the solution as well.

Below is a survey form where you can express your opinions. Your ideas are an important part of determining what Michigan we will leave for our children and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

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Please complete and mail back the following survey, or you may respond using our website at www.senate.mi.gov/demcaucus. Thank You!



Please rank each of these budget options one through six, with one being what you would most prefer and six being what you would least prefer:

- Cuts to public schools and higher education, which could result in fewer teachers or higher college tuition
- Cuts to Corrections programs, which could lead to the closing of up to 16 prison facilities and the release of nearly 14,000 prisoners
- Cuts to local government, which could result in fewer police officers and firefighters, or reducing services like road repair
- Cuts to health care, which could result in forcing people off of Medicaid and higher costs to taxpayers from the uninsured being treated in emergency rooms
- Increasing revenue from individuals to avoid cuts
- Increasing revenue from businesses to avoid cuts

Additional Comments _____

Name _____ Address _____

City/Zip _____ Phone () _____ E-Mail _____



State Senator
Mark Schauer

P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536



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**BUDGET CRISIS
UPDATE**
from Senator Schauer

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State Senator
Mark Schauer
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