

SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER • MARK SCHAUER • 19TH DISTRICT

# Schauer Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-2426 • Fax: 517-373-2964  
E-mail: senmschauer@senate.mi.gov • www.senate.mi.gov/schauer



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Mar 18, 2008

Contact: Tom Lenard  
Phone: (517) 373-2426

## **SCHAUER, SHAFFER INTRODUCE RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR BIPARTISAN APPROACH TO HEALTH CARE, FINANCIAL SECURITY**

*"Divided We Fail" Campaign Acknowledges National Crisis*

LANSING- Senate Democratic Leader Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek) and State Representative Rick Shaffer (R-Three Rivers) introduced bipartisan resolutions today calling for Democrats and Republicans to work together on solving the health care and financial security crisis. Senate Resolution 160 and House Resolution 307 support the "Divided We Fail" campaign to make improving health care accessibility and achieving greater financial security top priorities.

"We in Michigan are seeing firsthand the effects of neglecting the health care crisis and ignoring financial security concerns," said Schauer. "The loss of jobs, the loss of homes to foreclosure, and the loss of our competitive edge can be traced back to challenges in these areas. We must break the gridlock and come together to tackle these urgent issues. That's why I am so pleased to be working with my friend and colleague Rick Shaffer, who has been a great leader and advocate in caring for Michigan citizens."

"This gives us a great opportunity to show that legislators do understand the need for access to affordable healthcare for all citizens," said Shaffer. "As a registered nurse I have seen first hand the results of taking too long to consult a practitioner on a health issue which then becomes a health crisis that impacts entire families. I share with Mark Schauer the belief that healthcare is vital in resolving the current economic woes and appreciate the prospect of working with him. Together we are demonstrating that political philosophies do not have to be a barrier when there is a common cause."

Included in the "Divided We Fail" platform are the goals that:

- All Americans should have access to affordable health care, including prescription drugs, and these costs should not burden future generations.
- Wellness and prevention efforts, including changes in personal behavior such as diet and exercise, should be top national priorities.
- Our children and grandchildren should have an adequate quality of life when they retire. Social Security must be strengthened without burdening future generations.

- Workers should be provided with financial incentives to save, should have access to effective retirement plans, and should be able to keep working and contributing to society regardless of age.

The AARP, Service Employees International Union, Business Roundtable, and National Federation of Independent Businesses are among the dozens of organizations supporting the campaign. For more details, visit [www.dividedwefail.org](http://www.dividedwefail.org).

# # #

*Mark Schauer is the Senate Democratic Floor Leader. He represents the 19th Senate District, which includes all of Calhoun County and most of Jackson County.*