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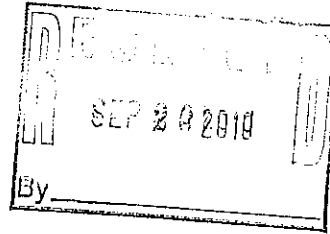


# Michigan State AFL-CIO

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MARK T. GAFFNEY, *President*

TINA ABBOTT, *Secretary-Treasurer*



September 16, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please copy and distribute the attached Virgil Bernero worker to worker flyer to your members. We moved Virgil in the polls thirty percentage points in three weeks to win the primary, so we can certainly move him twenty percent in seven weeks. But, we can only win and put a friend in the governor's seat if you give every member this flyer. Remember - Rick Snyder will sign Right-to-Work and his Lieutenant Governor choice voted for Right to Work in the Legislature!




We are also including a voter's registration piece. The deadline to send these in for members not registered is October first. Please find your members (about 15%) who are not registered and have them fill out and send this application to their city or country clerk. Call us right away if you need a list of your members who are not registered to vote.

Fraternally yours,

Mark T. Gaffney, President  
Michigan AFL-CIO

# ***YOU Decide Who - Is on the right side of the ISSUES***

**2010 Michigan Gubernatorial Election – Nov. 2, 2010**

		
	<p><b><i>Virg Bernero</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Rick Snyder</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Jobs</i></b></p>	<p>Virg fought and stood up to Wall Street banksters to defend Michigan's auto industry and our workers when no one else would. As Lansing's mayor, Virg has brought in over \$500 million of new investments that have led to 6,000 jobs. Lansing leads the state in GDP. No one can argue with the city of Lansing's economic success in these tough times.</p>	<p>Snyder outsourced jobs. Snyder is responsible for the outsourcing of thousands of jobs while serving on Gateway's Board of Directors from 2001 to 2005.</p>
<p><b><i>Manufacturing</i></b></p>	<p>Virg knows that as a state, we cannot just consume greatly, we have to produce greatly. We have to make the products of the future for export to the world. Virg will invest in retaining and strengthening our state's advanced manufacturing capabilities across diverse sectors of the new global economy so manufacturing can and will be the backbone of our state's economic comeback.</p>	<p>Snyder has repeatedly thrown manufacturing jobs under the bus, outsourcing rather than investing in Michigan workers. He has said that manufacturing is a thing of the past in Michigan.</p>
<p><b><i>Worker's Rights</i></b></p>	<p>Vocal proponent of collective bargaining. Steadfast opponent of Right-to-Work legislation. Virg has always been a strong advocate for working people, through good times and bad.</p>	<p>Not a friend of labor – said he would sign Right-to-Work legislation if it came to his desk.</p>

How you vote is a personal decision, but based on the record and input from your union, the Michigan State AFL-CIO believes Virg Bernero is the strongest candidate for Michigan's working families.



## *Budget Talks*

September 2010

Michigan faces a budget deficit of more than \$300 million this year and an additional \$484 million for the coming fiscal year. We are urging legislators to look for revenue by cutting ineffective tax incentives and loopholes enjoyed by business. We need shared sacrifice approach, not another all cuts budget that is balanced on the backs of workers and their families. The Republicans cannot be trusted. Representative Brian Calley and the rest of his party reneged on a deal to help pass new revenue legislation in return for targeted cuts. This is one good reason to stop the Snyder-Calley team from taking control in the November governor election.



Already there is an appearance that another train wreck is about to happen this year. Since no new revenue was passed last year and there is little chance it will happen this year, the budget is going to be especially challenging. On August 25, the legislature approved a \$208 million transfer from the School Aid Fund to shore up the shortfall in the general fund. This placed Democrats in a precarious situation where they had to decide whether to cut schools or cut other services like police and fire. Now there is news of a tentative deal on the remaining budgets that include a 3 percent cut across the board to remaining departments and includes running SB 1226, the sister to the poison bill SB 1227 that hurt teachers and other non-instructional school workers. SB 1226 will tack on another 3% pay cut to state workers. This is on top of the 51 million dollars of concessions and the accumulated cuts from previous years. Can you say ALABAMA or MISSISSIPPI ?

The irony is that while these cuts to working families and communities continue to wreak havoc, businesses continue to get millions of dollars in tax credits and exemptions. Every dollar that is given to a business for an exemption is a dollar that adds to the state deficit. We recognize that all tax exemptions are not bad, nor should they all be eliminated. Some of these credits help business get rooted into our communities so they can provide much needed jobs and help the economy; however these tax credits and other incentives must be scrutinized to verify their true value. Elimination or modification of tax credits and incentives should be implemented **before** making any more cuts to services. We must only elect State House and State Senate candidates who understand this.

If Republicans (Snyder-Calley) take control of the governorship this budget train will come off the tracks and Michigan will suffer long-lasting consequences. We need to keep the House, take the Senate and put the Bernero-Lawrence Team to work at the Capitol. Michigan AFL-CIO is urging you to support the Bernero-Lawrence Team and all the other Michigan AFL-CIO endorsed candidates who will fight to rebuild Michigan and restore fairness to working families.