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## Common Sense Bill Aims to Prevent Schauer-Style Abuse of Taxpayers

*Legislation to Prevent Repeat of Schauer's 2014 Scheme, Stop Candidates in Uncontested Primaries from Spending Tax Dollars to Bankroll Campaigns*

**LANSING, February 13, 2014** – The Michigan Freedom Fund today praised state Representative Tom Leonard for introducing House Bill 5331, common sense legislation to prevent candidates running unopposed from spending taxpayer funds on their campaigns.

Former Congressman Mark Schauer, the likely 2014 Democratic nominee for Governor recently announced his intention to seize nearly \$1 million from taxpayers to fund his Democratic primary campaign, despite the fact that Schauer is running unopposed.

“Apparently nobody told Mark Schauer he’s running a campaign for governor, not living a Dire Straits song,” said Michigan Freedom Fund President Greg McNeilly. “Schauer’s decision to seize a million dollars in taxpayer funds for an uncontested primary perfectly sums up what he thinks of taxpayers. House Bill 5331 will make sure future candidates show Michigan families and their pocketbooks a little more respect. Politicians like Schauer will no longer get their money for nothing or their tax dollars for free.”

HB 5331 would prohibit candidates in uncontested primaries from spending tax dollars on their campaigns beginning in 2015.

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