

## 3 Questions Reporters Should Ask Mark Schauer about His “Economic Plan”

*Voters Deserve Answers about Schauer’s Record, Economic Philosophy, Business Acumen*

**LANSING, July 29, 2014** – As Mark Schauer plans this afternoon to unveil his “10 point plan” for Michigan’s economy, the Michigan Freedom Fund urged reporters covering the gubernatorial campaign to seek critical answers for voters by asking three important questions of the candidate:

- 1) While serving as Jennifer Granholm’s top ally in the state Senate in 2007, Schauer cast the deciding votes on House Bill 5194 (PA 94 of 2007) and House Bill 5198 (PA 93 of 2007), which raised the income tax on Michigan families by \$826 million and the sales tax on Michigan families by \$750 million annually.

**If elected, does Schauer pledge not to raise the income tax and sales taxes on Michigan families again? Does he plan to repeal these tax hikes, totaling more than \$1.5 billion?**

- 2) Following his votes to increase taxes by over \$1.5 billion in October of 2007, Mark Schauer told MIRS newsletter that his votes were a result of an economic philosophy closely aligned with that of former Governor Jennifer Granholm’s.

*“(My close) relationship (with Governor Granholm) is based on a number of philosophical similarities in terms of how we strengthen our communities and how we strengthen our economy.” -- Mark Schauer, MIRS, 1/18/2008*

**If elected, does Mark Schauer plan to embrace Granholm-era economic strategies, including massive tax increases and increased government spending?**

- 3) Despite running on a platform of transparency, Schauer has refused to release to the media 11 years of campaign finance reports for the “Schauer Community Fund,” a political slush fund he operated in secret for over a decade during his time in the state legislature.

According to the Detroit Free Press (10/23/13), Schauer claims he lost the finance records.

Has he found them yet? And why should voters trust his ability to manage the state and the tax policy for every Michigander, when he has been unable to keep his personal finances and tax records in order?

**Bonus Questions**—At a time when the IRS scandal continues to explode in Washington, D.C., does Mark Schauer really expect Michigan voters to believe he lost tax records from his super-secret political slush fund? What is he hiding?