

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Commerce Communications Group

Jamaine Dickens

313-640-1801

jdickens@theccgroup.net



Bernero Calls for Cleaner, Greener Energy Following Oil Spill

LANSING, MICH. – July 28, 2010 - Lansing Mayor and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Virg Bernero today said the oil spill in Battle Creek and the Kalamazoo River is another reminder of why Michigan and the nation needs to reduce its dependence on oil and invest in cleaner, greener energy to move forward.

“We’ve seen on TV what happened to the Gulf, now it’s hit us here at home,” said Bernero. “Our current leadership has done nothing to stop the oil and gas companies from having free range on our land. It’s time to put limitations and better safety precautions in place to protect our water and our land. These types of disasters are 100 percent preventable.”

Bernero criticized current leadership, including his opponent Speaker of the House Andy Dillon for sitting on House Bill 4487 introduced by Rep. Fred Miller (D-Mt. Clemens) that would end unfair tax breaks for the oil and gas industry.

The bill, which has languished in the House for the past three terms under Dillon’s leadership would end the special tax rate loopholes enjoyed by the oil and gas industry.

“It’s unconscionable to put the interests of the oil companies ahead of the people of Michigan.” Virg said. “We must demand more from our elected officials to protect our precious natural resources.”

Tomorrow Virg will be in Battle Creek at 10:30 a.m. to meet with officials to tour the damaged sites starting at the corner of South Bedford Road and Jackson Street and discuss his plan to prevent future disasters like this.

Virg’s pro-environment stance and Greening Michigan’s Future Agenda has earned him endorsements from Michigan Clean Water Action, Michigan League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and the Michigan Section of the Sierra Club. He has also earned endorsements from the Michigan Education Association (MEA), the American Federation of Teachers Michigan (AFT Michigan), the Michigan Nurses Association (MNA), the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA) and the Michigan AFL-CIO.

###