



Fighting for Main Street

Virg Bernero and Brenda Lawrence have a plan to shake up the state capitol and stand up for working people and small business owners on Main Street. Their plan, the Main Street Agenda, will help small businesses grow, promote new investment and job creation in Michigan, strengthen education and help create more economic certainty for middle class families.

- **The Michigan Main Street Bank:** The Michigan Main Street Bank will partner with local lenders to provide lending for Michigan businesses so they no longer have to rely on Wall Street banks. It will also offer low-interest student loans and help ease the burden of plummeting home values.
- **International Investment Zones:** Establishing international investment zones throughout Michigan will create a powerful magnet for foreign investment and job creation. Virg made Lansing the first such zone in the state.
- **"Make it in Michigan" Tax Incentives tied to Job Creation:** Unlike now, tax incentives will be linked to Michigan job creation. If a business commits to job-creating investments here, those businesses can grow and thrive. But tax abatements could be repealed if a company fails to deliver promised jobs or ships jobs overseas.
- **Time-out on Home Foreclosures:** The Bernero/Lawrence Administration will put a temporary "time-out" on home foreclosures to help stop everyone's home values from plummeting further and allow struggling families stay in their homes while they get back on their feet
- **Building Michigan's Skilled Work Force:** Limiting tuition increases and restoring the Michigan Promise Scholarship are essential to making college affordable again. The Bernero administration will also expand adult education opportunities and worker retraining to equip citizens to compete and win in the global economy. Virg and Brenda understand that education IS economic development.
- **Invest in Early Childhood Education:** healthy child programs ensure kids have a clear path to a more promising and more prosperous future. Studies have shown that investing in our kids' from ages zero to five is critical to their development and actually saves money on corrections and other social costs down the road.
- **Protecting and Investing in Michigan's New Energy Economy:** Michigan must claim the position as a global leader in green energy and turn Michigan into the headquarters of the clean energy manufacturing future of America. We can invest in cleaner, greener technology to protect Michigan's extraordinary resources so they remain clean and abundant for generations to come.

A Record of Fighting for Main Street: Virg Bernero and Brenda Lawrence

As Mayors, Bernero and Lawrence have records of fighting for working people and small business owners in their cities. They possess actual economic development and budget balancing experience. They will bring the success they've had in their cities to the entire State of Michigan.

- Virg and Brenda have earned strong support from their local business communities. They have brought jobs and investment to their cities by streamlining bureaucracy, laying out the red carpet instead of the red tape for businesses.
- As Mayor of Lansing, Virg has attracted more than a half-billion dollars in new investments, and created 6,000 jobs.
- Both have balanced their budgets on time, every year, without any tax increases or layoffs.
- Mayor Lawrence has earned national and regional acclaim for her leadership abilities as Mayor of Southfield. Esquire Magazine named her one of America's "hardest-working" mayors. She was also declared one of Southeast Michigan's most influential women by Crain's Detroit Business.

What they've done in their cities, they can do for Michigan!