

STATE SENATOR • MICHAEL PRUSI • 38TH DISTRICT

# Prusi Press Release

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## **STATE SENATE DEMOCRATS CHOOSE PRUSI AS LEADER-ELECT**

*Caucus focused on creating jobs, strengthening Michigan's economy*

LANSING-Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) was selected today by his Democratic colleagues to take over as Senate Democratic Leader when current leader Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek) heads to Congress in January. Prusi was honored by the support and confidence of his caucus members and expressed his determination to get things done for Michigan families struggling in this difficult economy.

"The challenges before us are great, but by staying focused on what's best for the people who sent us here we can turn Michigan's economy around," said Prusi. "We must be united in making changes that will help our children and grandchildren find jobs and raise their families' right here in this great state."

Prusi has served in several leadership positions within the caucus, including as the lead Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee and previously as the lead Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee. The Senator also serves on the Energy Policy, Judiciary and Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs committees. Before being elected to the Senate, he served three terms in the Michigan House of Representatives. Prior to his legislative career, Mike worked for over twenty years as an iron ore miner for the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company at various Marquette County mining operations, including five years as an underground miner.

"Senator Prusi has been at the forefront of the most pressing issues facing our state, including energy policy and the state budget," said Schauer. "These experiences will serve him well, and I am confident he will excel in his new role as Caucus Leader. We will work closely together to ensure a smooth, productive transition."

"Senator Prusi is an experienced, thoughtful legislator who will make sure people are the top priority," said Democratic Floor Leader Buzz Thomas (D-Detroit). "I look forward to working closely with him to advance an agenda that will attract jobs to Michigan and improve the lives of struggling consumers."

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