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## **AFL-CIO Blasts President Bush's Visit to Michigan**

Lansing – The Michigan State AFL-CIO today blasted President George Bush for flying into Michigan only to attend a Republican political fundraiser.

“It is ironic that the President is flying into Flint, a city devastated by this administration’s lack of a manufacturing policy, lack of a fair trade policy and the lack of an adequate health care policy.” said Mark Gaffney, President of the Michigan State AFL-CIO. “A lot of people in Flint are without health insurance. People along Bush’s route today have lost their manufacturing jobs and people everywhere in Michigan want trade policies that don’t shift jobs to China.”

Given the state of the most important industry in Michigan, it is extremely unfortunate that the President is coming to Clarkston, only 40 miles from Detroit, and will not meet with the Big Three automakers despite finding the time to attend a partisan political fundraiser. The administration has postponed meeting with the auto industry three times this year. That should make clear to voters in Michigan how Republicans and the administration feel about Michigan’s workers.

Some of the money raised by Bush today will go to the Michigan Republican Party and will be used to try to elect Dick DeVos as Michigan’s governor. “This is the problem with DeVos, his economics are the same as Bush’s.” Gaffney stated, “Money for Halliburton, oil companies and rich friends and the same old failed policies that hurt workers and their families. That’s why Michigan union members will be working hard to keep Dick DeVos and Bush economics out of the Governor’s office.”

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