



For Immediate Release

## Dreher Demands Theis Hold Hearings on New Auto Insurance Bills

A Democratic candidate for 22<sup>nd</sup> State Senate is calling on State Rep. Lana Theis to hold hearings on a new set of bills to lower auto insurance rates for Michigan residents.

Adam Dreher said the bills have been bottled up in the House Insurance Committee and deserve a hearing.

“We know that Lana Theis has been bought and paid for by the insurance industry. Theis, along with her husband Sam, have received more than \$100,000 in contributions from the insurance industry in less than two years. Voters are sick of politics by the highest bidder,” Dreher said.

He noted that Theis tried to fast-track a package of bills that would have gutted personal injury benefits for Michigan motorists, without guaranteeing cuts in their rates. It also would have shifted \$80 million in medical costs from insurance companies to the taxpayers. Dreher called the bills a windfall for the industry. They were voted down in the Michigan House last week by a vote of 45 to 63.

Other bills would address insurance rates without gutting benefits by setting up a fraud authority to curb fraud in claims; put reasonable limits on in-home care by attendants; limit insurance companies’ use of discriminatory factors in setting rates such as gender, race, employment, credit status, and income; and require a 25 percent reduction in premiums.

“Those bills deserve a hearing in Theis' committee, but so far she hasn't scheduled one. Why not? It doesn't increase the profits of the insurance companies, that's why,” he said.

“The fact that insurance companies chose to invest \$100,000 in a particular candidate raises red flags. What do they expect to get back – at our expense? It's blatantly obvious that Theis used her position to line the pockets of insurance companies at the expense of motorists. That has got to stop and it will when I am elected to the state Senate.”

Dreher is the only Democrat to announce for the 22<sup>nd</sup> State Senate, and Theis has announced she will run for the GOP nomination. The district includes all of Livingston County and the western two-thirds of Washtenaw County.

The bills stuck in Theis' committee are HB5125, HB5107, HB5104, HB5108, HB5111, and HB5124.