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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Tonya Schuitmaker files Committee to run for the 20<sup>th</sup> State Senate district**

*Campaign to focus on Jobs and Economic Recovery*

State Rep. Tonya Schuitmaker (80<sup>th</sup> District, R-Antwerp Township) announced today that she will file paperwork forming a committee to run for the State Senate in the 20<sup>th</sup> District. This district, currently represented by Senator Tom George who will be term-limited in 2010, covers all of Kalamazoo County, including Antwerp and Paw Paw Townships of Van Buren County.

In her announcement, Tonya stated “I will be taking the next year to meet with the residents of the greater Kalamazoo Valley as we work together to develop creative solutions and ideas to make Michigan better.

The economic indicators in Michigan are not positive. Michigan with its abundance of natural resources, universities and talented workforce has been leading the nation for far too long in unemployment, decreased property values, crumbling infrastructure, and students who leave after graduating from our universities. “There is much concern over the future of Michigan,” said Tonya, “and that is why our campaign will be about jobs and how we can improve our economy.”

Michigan needs to become a high-tech state with affordable health care and quality education for its citizens. During the campaign, Tonya will be talking about ways the government can become efficient, how we can attract and retain jobs, and improve our economic viability. “Michigan is at a crossroads and it will take all of us to turn its future course around,” said Tonya.

Prior to serving in the state House for the 80<sup>th</sup> District, Tonya Schuitmaker was a practicing attorney concentrating on family, estate, business and municipal law. She and her husband Steve reside in Antwerp Township and together they have two children, Jordan and Savina.

To change Michigan’s future for the better join Tonya’s team and go to [www.votetonya.com](http://www.votetonya.com).