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**Michigan Senate Failed to Reject 3 Percent Union Pay Increase:  
Business Leaders for Michigan Disappointed,  
Urges Legislature to Reconsider**

**DETROIT, Mich., March 3, 2010** – Business Leaders for Michigan today issued the following statement in reaction to Michigan Senate’s failure to reject the 3 percent pay increase for state union workers scheduled for October 1, 2010:

We commend the Senate Republicans and Senate Democrat who crossed party lines to vote on this issue today, but we are very disappointed in those that voted no on the resolution to reject the pay increase for unionized state workers. Given the fiscal challenges facing our state, we urge the Legislature to reconsider in order to avoid making deeper cuts to critical state services like Medicaid, schools or higher education.

The Civil Service Commission appropriately rescinded the scheduled 3 percent pay raise for non-exclusively represented state employees and all workers should be treated the same.

Many private sector workers have seen their pay cut or frozen over the past several years. When the State’s job providers and workers who pay taxes are cutting back, State government employees shouldn’t be getting a pay increase – it’s a matter of fairness and an indication of how serious the legislature is committed to enacting serious reforms to address the state’s \$1.7 billion budget deficit.

**About Business Leaders for Michigan:**

Business Leaders for Michigan ([www.BusinessLeadersforMichigan.com](http://www.BusinessLeadersforMichigan.com)) is a private, non-profit executive leadership organization dedicated to making Michigan a “Top Ten” state for job and economic growth. The organization is composed exclusively of the chairpersons, chief executives or most senior executives of Michigan's largest companies and universities, which provide over 300,000 jobs in Michigan, generate over \$1 Trillion in annual revenue and serve over 130,000 students. The organization’s work is defined by the Michigan Turnaround Plan, a holistic, fact-based strategy to get Michigan’s economy back on track. Visit [www.michiganturnaroundplan.com](http://www.michiganturnaroundplan.com) for more information.

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