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Brooks Patterson, in Grand Rapids today, promises decision on run for Michigan governor by Easter

by Chris Knappe | The Grand Rapids Press

Thursday March 19, 2009, 9:34 AM

GRAND RAPIDS -- Oakland County Executive L Brooks Patterson, 70, said he will have decision made about whether to run for governor in 2010 by Easter during a speech at Michigan Economic Solutions Summit at the JW Marriott downtown this morning.

He expects a run to cost \$15 million to \$18 million.

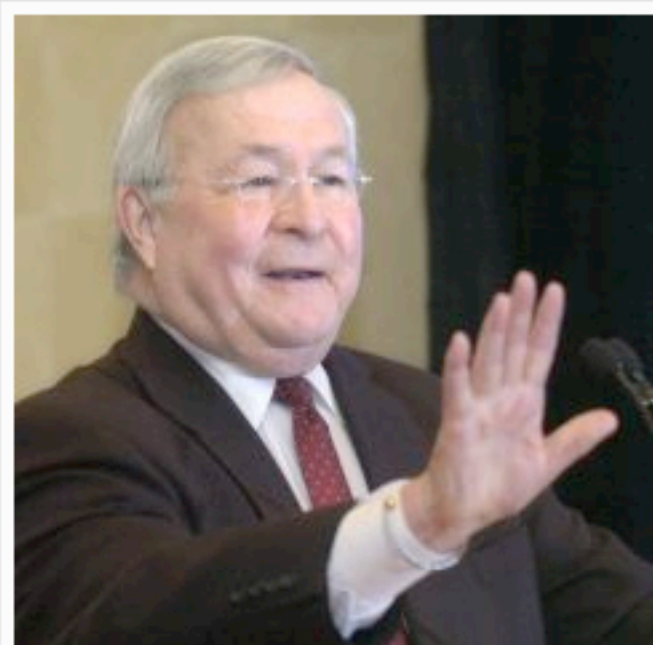
"The economy is terrible," he said, during an event hosted by the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights. "You can't blame that all on Jennifer (Granholm), but clearly you can blame the Michigan Business Tax and the surcharge she fought for."

He says the new state business tax has resulted in a \$1 billion tax hike at a time the state is shedding jobs and unemployment is on the rise.

Among his potential Republican opponents are Attorney General Mike Cox, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land and U.S. Rep. Peter Hoekstra, of Holland.

Patterson ran for governor in 1982, but lost in the Republican primary.

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Lori Niedenfuer Cool | The Grand Rapids Press

L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive, speaks at an economic forum sponsored by the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights held at the JW Marriott Hotel in Grand Rapids on Thursday morning.

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