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## Panels OK food school

### Institute will teach inspectors

BARRETT NEWKIRK • THE ENQUIRER • JUNE 20, 2009

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Two bills that would support a new food inspection training [school](#) in Battle Creek are heading to the U.S. House.

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The House Committee on Energy and Commerce approved a bill Thursday making inspection training a priority for the Food and Drug Administration.

"The language (of the bill) is fairly broad, but the intent is clear that our project in Battle Creek would qualify," Rep. Mark Schauer, D-Bedford Township, said Friday.

Schauer and Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, introduced the legislation last month. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., has introduced similar legislation in the Senate with support of Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich.

The International Food Protection Training Institute began operations in Battle Creek this year with a \$5 million start-up grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The institute will host its first [class](#) in July at the McCamly Plaza Hotel.

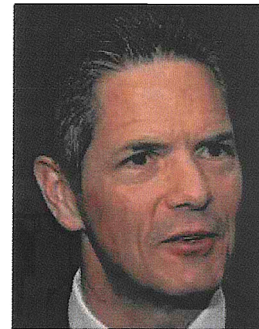
A second bill passed through the House Appropriation Committee this week. It includes \$1 million for the International Food Protection Training Institute requested by Schauer.

Schauer said he is making his congressional colleagues aware that the institute is his top district priority.

"It not only will address the food safety problem we have, but it is part of a very focused economic strategy to redevelop downtown Battle Creek and bring knowledge-based jobs to the community," he said.

Both bills will likely go before the full House in the next few weeks, Schauer said.

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Schauer

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