



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
LT. GOVERNOR

To the Honorable Members of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives:

Over the past six years, we've gotten a lot done together to move Michigan forward. I am proud of our strong, bipartisan record. From more than 1,400 bipartisan bills to 6 balanced budgets, we have delivered meaningful results for working families, small businesses, and communities. Our strong fiscal management has led to higher-than-expected state revenues and made Michigan a better place for people to live, work and invest.

The work that the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) does every day is critical to build on our progress. Anchored in the comprehensive "Make It in Michigan" economic development strategy, the MEDC is focused on investing in people, upgrading places, and winning projects. Thanks to your support, we have passed brownfield legislation making it easier to convert abandoned buildings into new, cutting-edge factories powered by the latest technologies; modernized Renaissance Zones and lowered costs for companies who invest in areas of our state that have been ignored; and won hundreds of millions of dollars to help manufacturers retool their factories and ensure today's workers are part of tomorrow's economy. Most recently, we established a bipartisan Innovation Fund and R&D Tax Credit to launch hundreds of Michigan startups, create thousands of good-paying local jobs, and grow our collaboration with Michigan's world-class universities.

Over the past six years, we've moved Michigan forward. Now, the people expect us to find common ground to lower costs, create good-paying manufacturing jobs, boost research and innovation, and cut red tape. We are all on Team Michigan, and together, we have the power to make our state's future brighter than ever before.

Let's get it done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gretchen Whitmer".

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

Dear Member of the Michigan Legislature:

Thank you for continuing to answer the call to public service. As partners with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), we look forward to the opportunity to work with your staff and colleagues to execute the “Make It in Michigan” economic development strategy that simultaneously attracts and develops People, cultivates and revitalizes Places, and competes for and wins Projects from companies of all sizes.

Together, we’ve created programming, delivered technical assistance and inspired economic hope to support creating jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities for your constituents. While significant work remains, during this new legislative session, we are energized by the road ahead and look forward to building on the impact that the MEDC has made with your support in each of your districts.

In the past few years, we’ve made great strides in growing employment and entrepreneurial opportunities by working together in a bipartisan way. Key achievements, including updating our state’s transformational brownfields program, establishing the Revitalization and Placemaking Program (RAP), re-establishing the state R&D tax credit, and creating and funding an evergreen Innovation Fund, are a testament to our shared commitment to making more in Michigan and moving our state forward.

Through legislative action, Team Michigan has:

- provided funding support to existing and new to Michigan businesses via the Michigan Business Development Program,
- catalyzed place-based mixed-development in communities across both peninsulas via the Community Revitalization Grant Program,
- inspired thousands to visit and experience ‘Pure Michigan’ via MEDC’s Travel Michigan office, and
- funded Small Business Development Centers, that have assisted thousands of risk-taking entrepreneurs to realize their dreams of solving problems, transforming communities and creating wealth for their families and their employees.

As the ‘Make It In Michigan’ economic development strategy focused on People, Places and Projects suggests, economic development is equally about business attraction and expansion as it is about community development, talent development and entrepreneurial development. As the Super Bowl prowling Lions and the resurgent Pistons, Red Wings and Tigers can attest winning requiring singular focus and alignment on the mission and celebration on the team and not any single individual. Economic development is a team sport that is increasingly globally competitive and evolving. As our professional teams adjust their playbooks to counter their oppositions’ schemes to win, so must Michigan’s toolkit to win private investment must evolve. Flexibility, fairness, and a

commitment to diversifying our state’s industry sectors without forgetting our longstanding strengths are critical. We continue to support sensible and necessary initiatives such as the HIRE Michigan package, which is an update of Good Jobs for Michigan, and an updated SOAR Fund that wisely considers the changes in the global marketplace since its enactment in December 2021 in a similarly divided government.

We have proven that Michiganders can have rigorous debate across party and geographic lines yet unite on a mission to create lifelong learners, accelerate job and entrepreneurial creation while revitalizing communities. As your partners in this process, the MEDC will continue to provide the highest-quality, objective, and data-driven economic development counsel to the Michigan House of Representatives.

Together, we will make a long-lasting and positive impact on the lives of Michiganders for generations to come, and we take this responsibility seriously.

Thank you again for answering the call to public service. We look forward to working closely with you and your staff in the coming weeks and months.

With great expectations for our state’s future and wishes for your continued success and health,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Quentin L. Messer, Jr.".

Quentin L. Messer, Jr. CEcD
Chief Executive & Economic
Competitiveness Officer,
Michigan Economic
Development Corporation
President & Chair,
Michigan Strategic Fund

*Please note I am personally available
to you at any time at messerq@michigan.org,
or by phone at 517-881-5861 (work) and 225-235-4830
(personal mobile).*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Awenate Cobbina".

Awenate Cobbina
Chair,
Michigan Economic Development
Corporation Executive Committee