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MICHIGAN SENATE
STATE SENATOR MALLORY McMORROW

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To: Senate Colleagues
From: Senator Mallory McMorrow and Senator John Damoose
Date: 11/13/2024
Re: Co-sponsorship Opportunity—legislation to compel the creation and implementation of a 10-year economic development strategic state plan

Today, we have available for co-sponsorship a package of two bills that would compel the state of Michigan to create and implement a comprehensive 10-year economic development strategy.

We've also prepared a report so you can review the findings of our three economic development roundtable discussions held between May and September of this year with over 50 participants including regional economic development leaders, business owners, innovators, entrepreneurs, non-profit and education leaders and more. Senator McMorrow held these robust discussions in partnership with Senators Damoose and Victory in Traverse City and Holland, respectively, as well as a third in Detroit attended by Senators Chang and Representative Hoskins.

Based on the roundtable feedback and input from members, as well as neighboring and competing state's own plans, Senators McMorrow and Damoose are introducing bipartisan legislation to compel the state to create a 10-year economic development strategy to empower our state to focus its efforts and leverage our unique assets rather than relying on traditional models of economic development or competing with every state for every project. Recognizing that economic development has far-reaching impacts and cannot happen in a vacuum, a board of voting and non-voting members, including state agencies, regional economic development organizations, industry leaders, and national experts would be appointed to develop the plan over the course of a year.

Numerous states have undertaken this process in recent years, including Virginia, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and others.

Sen. McMorrow's bill compels the creation of the state's economic development plan, including specifying required considerations, prosperity-based and measurable success metrics, as well as the creation of the board.

Sen. Damoose's bill outlines the structure and appointment requirements of the board.

Please see the attached post-roundtable report on our findings and vision. We welcome your co-sponsorship.

Sincerely,

Mallory McMorrow
8th District

John Damoose
37th District

