

STATE SENATOR • GLENN S. ANDERSON • 6TH DISTRICT

Anderson Press Release

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Senator Anderson Pushes for Job Creation, Helps Pass Bills to Transform Former Wixom Assembly

MEGA Tax credits will help Michigan compete, retain jobs and attract investment

LANSING, Mich. - Senator Glenn S. Anderson voted Thursday to approve an extension of the Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) tax credits that would allow the program to award incentives to redevelop the closed Ford Wixom Assembly Plant into a renewable energy park. The project is expected to bring in millions of dollars of investment and thousands of jobs. Without the Senate's passage of these bills, SB 777 and HB 4523, MEGA would have been unable to issue any more job-producing credits and this project would not be possible.

"The action taken today represents great progress for Michigan's economy and our workers, but we still can do more," said Senator Glenn S. Anderson. "We have the tools in place to be competitive, but we need to secure funding to continue to keep attracting businesses and new jobs to Michigan."

On Wednesday, Senator Anderson made a statement on the Senate floor urging his Senate colleagues to move these bills and not delay much-needed jobs from coming to Michigan any further.

"I am glad that, after being delayed for two weeks by the majority caucus, this package of bills passed on an overwhelming and bi-partisan vote. Michigan jobs must always come before politics and this represents a big step forward in putting our people back to work," Anderson said after the vote on Thursday.

These credits are essential to generating economic activity in Michigan, and in particular, helping the state shift from traditional manufacturing to growing, high-tech and green industries. Xtreme Power and Clairvoyant Energy are expected to invest \$725 million at the Ford Wixom plant. Xtreme Power will create 2,500 direct jobs and 10,000 supplier and indirect jobs, including a minimum of 4,000 jobs in Wixom. Clairvoyant Energy will create 270 direct jobs, and its manufacturing partner, Oerlikon, plans to locate its North American Headquarters at Wixom, creating 300 jobs.

There are currently more than sixty other potential projects in the lineup to receive MEGA incentives, and while today's legislation only specifically addresses the Wixom project, Senate Democrats continue to push for funding this program to support other

investments in the state as well.

Since 1995, the Michigan Economic Growth Authority has promoted job creation and economic growth throughout our state by generating billions of dollars in private investment and the creation and retention of more than 320,000 jobs. Fourteen years later, we are still seeing vast economic benefits from these credits. Michigan has seen a great deal of new business in nearly every sector including manufacturing, automotive supply, film and television and renewable energy.

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