Andy Schor
Mayor

Andy Schor, Mayor

City Hall - 9th Floor
124 W. Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933-1694
PH: 517.483.4141 – FAX: 517.483.6066
Lansing.Mayor@lansingmi.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

February 17, 2026

Hon. Mike Hoadley, Chair
Michigan House Economic Competitiveness Committee
Anderson House Office Building
124 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Chairman Hoadley and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express strong support for House Bill 5031. This legislation represents a pivotal step forward in strengthening Michigan's ability to:

- Attract high technology businesses.
- Retain innovative-driven employers, and
- Leverage private equity and venture capital.

HB 5031 updates the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act to expand and clarify the tools available to local development financing authorities. It allows existing SmartZones to extend their tax capture for an additional 15 years.

The Lansing Regional SmartZone, which primarily represents the City of Lansing and a partner municipality, has already witnessed growth in innovation that resulted in a high number of venture capital deals between 2019 and 2023.[1] The passage of this bill ensures the continuation of this momentum.

The bill also includes clear definitions and appropriate safeguards to ensure that tax increment capture remains tied to meaningful, measurable public benefit and local accountability.

I urge your support for HB 5031, encourage its passage, and welcome the opportunity to discuss how the bill can support economic development in our area.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Andy Schor
Mayor

[1] Venture Capital, *State of the Lansing Region 2025*, Benchmarking Report, pg. 39-40