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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

February 3, 2026

Michigan House Economic Competitiveness Committee
Anderson House Office Building
124 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Members of the Michigan House Economic Competitiveness Committee,

On behalf of the **Michigan State University Research Foundation** and our subsidiary companies including **Spartan Innovations**, **Red Cedar Ventures**, **Michigan Rise** and our real estate company **UCRP I**, we are writing to express our support for **House Bill 5031**. This legislation represents an important step forward in strengthening Michigan's ability to grow high-technology businesses and innovation-driven employers.

HB 5031 updates the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act to expand and clarify the tools available to local development financing authorities. Specifically, allowing existing SmartZones to extend their tax capture for an additional 15 years. These changes will provide communities like ours in Greater Lansing with the long-term stability needed to support job creation, entrepreneurial growth, and strategic investment in Michigan's innovation economy.

In Greater Lansing and across the state where the MSU Research Foundation has invested millions of dollars over the past 10 years, this bill enables the local regions to continue to provide essential support for leveraging existing assets, fostering public-private partnerships, and catalyzing new economic opportunities including high-tech, high-growth entrepreneurship programming. 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.

We urge your support for HB 5031 and encourage its passage in the Michigan Legislature. Its impact will be significant for communities working to compete in future-facing and technology-driven sectors while strengthening Michigan's overall economic resilience.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration. We welcome the opportunity to discuss how HB 5031 can support economic development in our area.

Sincerely,

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