



**OHIO CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**



**CANTON REGIONAL  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



**TOLEDO REGIONAL  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE**



December 22, 2025

The Honorable Michael DeWine  
Governor  
State of Ohio  
Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

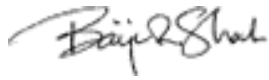
Dear Governor DeWine:

As you know, the Ohio Metro Chambers Coalition (OMCC) is dedicated to fostering a vibrant, interconnected, and prosperous economy across Ohio. Our mission is to champion economic development, to advocate for policies that support the growth of our regions, and to serve as a unified voice for the businesses we collectively represent.

We write today to express our continued concern for the future of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program. As a coalition of business-led, success-driven organizations, we fervently believe in the vitality of Ohio's small businesses, especially our manufacturing industry. We are very concerned about the future of manufacturing assistance for small businesses in Ohio in light of ongoing decisions regarding MEP at the federal level. The MEP Program has assisted over 40,000 manufacturers over the last five years, and its technical assistance program helps both urban and rural businesses remain competitive. This is doubly important as the federal government ramps up efforts to reshore manufacturing.

We are very appreciative of your efforts to support the MEP program and the manufacturers that benefit from the program. We are grateful for your efforts to urge the Department of Commerce to release details of findings and recommendations from its forthcoming Inspector General report, and we share your desire to quickly address any potential deficiencies. In the meantime, we urge you to utilize appropriated state funding to continue the vital programs that allow our manufacturers to thrive. We would appreciate the opportunity to partner with you and your Administration to devise creative solutions that will ensure our manufacturers remain competitive and supported.

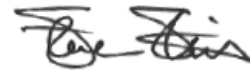
Sincerely,



Baiju Shah  
President & CEO  
Greater Cleveland Partnership



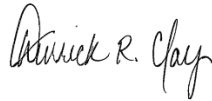
Steve Millard  
President & CEO  
Greater Akron Chamber



Steve Stivers  
President & CEO  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce



Chris Kershner  
President & CEO  
Dayton Area Chamber of  
Commerce



Derrick Clay  
President & CEO  
Columbus Chamber



Guy Coviello  
President & CEO  
Youngstown/Warren Regional  
Chamber



Jeff Dafler  
President & CEO  
Canton Regional Chamber



Wendy Gramza  
President & CEO  
Toledo Regional Chamber of  
Commerce



Brendon J. Cull  
President & CEO  
Cincinnati Regional Chamber

CC: Ohio Department of Development