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March 25, 2026

The Honorable Jon Husted
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Husted,

On behalf of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce and our more than 2,200 member businesses serving the greater Dayton region, I am writing to express our strong support for the Upward Mobility Act. The Dayton region is undergoing significant economic transformation, driven by growth in advanced manufacturing, aerospace and defense, healthcare, and logistics. Our economy depends on a highly skilled and adaptable workforce that is ready to meet the changing demands of the labor market.

One of the most critical challenges impacting our workforce today is the “benefits cliff.” Too often, individuals striving to improve their financial stability face a sudden and disproportionate loss of public assistance when their income increases modestly. This creates a powerful disincentive to accept higher wages, pursue promotions, or increase working hours—ultimately limiting upward mobility and constraining the available talent pool for employers.

For businesses in the Dayton area, the benefits cliff has tangible consequences. We frequently hear from employers who encounter difficulties filling positions or encouraging workforce advancement because employees are understandably cautious about crossing income thresholds that could leave them worse off financially. The Upward Mobility Act addresses this issue directly by empowering states to pursue flexible solutions that allow for a more gradual and predictable transition off public benefits for the workforce that depends on them. This legislation will help unlock workforce participation, improve employee retention, and foster a more dynamic and resilient labor market.

When individuals are able to invest in their careers, pursue additional training, and accept higher-paying opportunities, the entire regional economy benefits. Businesses gain access to a more motivated and capable workforce, and communities experience increased economic stability and growth.

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce believes that policies which support upward mobility are essential to long-term prosperity. This legislation represents a thoughtful and practical solution to a well-documented problem, and we commend your leadership in sponsoring the Upward Mobility Act and your continued commitment to strengthening Ohio’s workforce. Thank you for your service and your dedication to the people and businesses of Ohio.

Sincerely,



Stephanie K
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