



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARLIN GILCHRIST II  
LT. GOVERNOR

September 16, 2022

The Honorable Gina Raimondo  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo:

I write to commend your commitment to strengthening our country's economy and to highlight the critical role that the State of Michigan has in implementing the newly created investments in the bipartisan *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022* (P.L. 117-167). As you know, this critical legislation provides billions of dollars to invest in domestic semiconductor production, strengthen our supply chains, enhance scientific research, and promote U.S. innovation. As the Department of Commerce ("Department") swiftly implements the legislation, Michigan's strong manufacturing base and skilled workforce stand ready to lead the nation's efforts to implement the provisions of the legislation.

For decades, Michigan's prominent manufacturing heritage—most notably as home to the "Big Three" automobile companies—has guided our continued effort to develop new and innovative products for the future. More than a century after the first automobiles rolled off production lines, continuous advancements made by Michigan's manufacturers position our state to lead the way and re-shore semiconductor manufacturing in the United States. Congress' bipartisan legislation provides more than \$50 billion for semiconductor development and production—including \$2 billion dedicated to incentivizing the production of "mature node" semiconductors critically important to automakers—which will have a monumental impact on domestic manufacturing and strengthening our supply chain. In particular, the investment in "mature nodes" will undoubtedly address the ongoing automobile supply chain issue, as tens of thousands of vehicles sit idly in lots awaiting final production.

The historic, bipartisan legislation also directs the establishment of 20 geographically distributed regional technology and innovation hubs through the Department to support economic development in innovation, yet another opportunity for Michigan to demonstrate its leadership. As you evaluate candidates to host regional hubs focused on technology development, job creation, and innovation, I look forward to highlighting why Michigan is the ideal location to invest resources to develop innovative technologies—just as we have done for decades.

On August 25<sup>th</sup>, President Joe Biden signed an Executive Order, Implementation of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (EO 14080), to kick-start the implementation process of the transformational provisions of this legislation. Comprised of you, high-ranking White House officials, and cabinet secretaries, a newly established council will ensure President Biden's priorities—including



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ensuring long-term leadership in the sector and strengthening and expanding regional clusters—reflect the investments of these federal funds. In fact, I signed an Executive Directive in August to direct state departments and agencies to identify and leverage all available resources from this legislation to demonstrate Michigan’s leadership. There is not a state better suited than Michigan to highlight these priorities and demonstrate U.S. leadership in the semiconductor manufacturing sector.

On September 6<sup>th</sup>, your department took the guiding principles of President Biden’s Executive Order and outlined how the CHIPS for America Fund will support reshoring the manufacturing of semiconductors and investing in American research and development. By supporting large scale investments in leading edge manufacturing, investing in manufacturing capacity for mature and current-generation chips, and promoting U.S. leadership in research and development, we will once again lead the way on manufacturing. Since taking office, I have worked tirelessly—and in a bipartisan manner—to secure bold investments in semiconductor and polysilicon manufacturing in Michigan, including Hemlock Semiconductor, KLA, Wacker, SK Siltron, and Calumet Electronics. These federal incentives will build on the state’s current efforts to ensure Michigan continues to be the manufacturing capital of the world.

As the Department implements provisions of the *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022*, the State of Michigan is ready to use our long history of innovation to champion these efforts. I look forward to our continued partnership as we grow domestic manufacturing, support technological innovation, and create a high-tech workforce reflective of our evolving economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen Whitmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor of Michigan