

**GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM**

July 6, 2007

This is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

I'm proud to say that a new Michigan Business Tax is headed to my desk, and I am looking forward to signing it into law. This is another critical, critical plank in Michigan's comprehensive economic plan.

With this Michigan Business Tax, Michigan is open for business. Now, we can give companies the peace of mind of knowing what to expect on tax day. And we have made sure that Michigan's taxes will keep our businesses competitive, and will help them create Michigan jobs.

This is a critical step for Michigan, both in strengthening businesses that are already here, and for attracting new businesses to our state.

We already have so many great advantages when we recruit businesses. We've got a highly skilled workforce, some of the best colleges, universities and community colleges in the world. We have a high quality of life that makes Michigan attractive to businesses and to families.

This latest plank in our comprehensive economic plan joins the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Fund, the Michigan Promise scholarship, and our Go Anywhere, Do Anything approach to bringing jobs to Michigan. With all of these efforts, and more, we are laying a solid foundation for Michigan's future.

With the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Fund, we are diversifying Michigan's economy and creating new jobs in cutting-edge industries like life sciences, advanced manufacturing and alternative energy.

The Michigan Promise scholarship is giving all students the opportunity to continue their education beyond high school, at either a four-year college or a two year community college, or technical training program with a \$4,000 scholarship to every student in Michigan.

And, I continue to go anywhere and do anything to bring good jobs to Michigan, so that workers of all ages have great opportunities to be successful in Michigan. In fact, Bosch Corporation, a German company that is the world's number one automotive supplier, just opened their new Technical Center in Plymouth Township with 400 employees. Ever since I first met with Bosch executives in Germany in 2004, they have been a great partner to our state. And this recent investment is \$37.5 million in this Plymouth facility.

Our highly competitive Michigan Business Tax will further bolster Michigan's position as a great place for businesses to grow and create jobs.

Thank you for listening.