



600 Renaissance Center, Suite 1760, Detroit, MI 48243 313.259.5400

May 13, 2014

The Honorable John Walsh
Chairman, Detroit's Recovery and Michigan's Future Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Walsh:

Business Leaders for Michigan (BLM) supports the state taking steps to accelerate Detroit's exit from municipal bankruptcy in a sound fiscal condition. As such, we support the state making a significant contribution to the comprehensive financial restructuring plan being developed by the Emergency Manager. We also strongly support the establishment of a financial oversight process to ensure the maintenance of sound fiscal practices that will improve city services. However, we urge the legislature to minimize the imposition of regulations or provisions that might jeopardize the financial restructuring plan's approval.

Our Michigan Turnaround Plan recognizes the importance of cities, particularly Detroit, to the entire state's economic growth. Our position is based on facts that identify our largest cities as the core of state regions that disproportionately drive the economy and are the image of Michigan outside our state's borders. For example, the whole state is benefitting from Detroit's stronger economy and recent positive global media coverage of Detroit's redevelopment. As such, we have consistently supported state policies that encourage the redevelopment of cities and actions to help get local finances in order, such as the Emergency Management Act.

Michiganders also support Detroit and a state investment in its future. Our polling research shows that majorities of Michiganders from every part of the state recognize the importance of Detroit to the state's economy and support the state making a significant financial contribution to a restructuring plan.

Our organization believes in the future of Detroit, but also that the city's current redevelopment momentum is fragile and cannot be jeopardized by a prolonged bankruptcy. We have an opportunity to make history by getting Detroit through the largest municipal bankruptcy ever on-time and in sound fiscal condition. It will be a model for the nation. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Rothwell", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Doug Rothwell
President and CEO

cc: The Honorable Rick Snyder, Governor
The Honorable Jase Bolger, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Randy Richardville, Senate Majority Leader
The Honorable Tim Greimel, House Democratic Leader
The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer, Senate Democratic Leader
The Honorable Michael McCready, State Representative
The Honorable Earl Poleski, State Representative
The Honorable Thomas Stallworth III, State Representative
The Honorable Harvey Santana, State Representative