



## MAYOR ALEXANDER D. JOHNSON II

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March 4, 2023

Chair Nathanson and Committee Members:

### Opposition for HB 3011

The City of Albany does not support the measures proposed alterations to the current enterprise zone program(s) found in HB3011. Enterprise zones are sponsored by the local government and are one of the only tools we currently possess to encourage economic growth and attract high paying jobs. Local control remains a vital aspect of this tool as local jurisdictions are the entities forgoing revenue for investment in their own economic vitality. Thoughtful use of the tool to provide a short-term incentive for companies investing heavily in our community has been critical in creating lasting benefit.

The enterprise zone program in Albany currently has:

- 12 companies that have located or expanded in the enterprise zone using this tool.
- These companies represent over \$70M in new investment in infrastructure, equipment and facilities that create lasting value in our community.
- These same companies have added hundreds of new, family wage jobs as a part of their enterprise zone partnership.
- In the short term, our community is forgoing roughly \$1.5M/year in revenue, but is enjoying a 16x return in durable investment, new jobs, and a diversified economy.

All enterprise zone projects are publicly known, discussed in publicly noticed meetings, often covered in the local newspaper, coordinated with local/regional utilities, and are only used with investment and expansions for family waged jobs, most often for exiting local companies. As such, responsibility for extending Ezone benefits also rests with local authorities. We strongly encourage this committee to continue to allow local communities, local knowledge, local partners, and local businesses to use the enterprise zone tool in the way it was intended to be used; locally.

Sincerely,

Alexander D. Johnson II  
Mayor