

**GOVERNOR JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM**

Friday, December 16, 2005

Hello, this is Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Recently, there has been tremendous movement on our Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan to grow Michigan's economy.

Just before Thanksgiving, I signed part of this plan into law: a jobs creation package to invest billions of dollars in our 21<sup>st</sup> century economy and create tens of thousands of new, Michigan jobs that will not be outsourced. All kinds of jobs for all kinds of people.

We are investing \$2 billion in public and private money to diversify our economy and help start-up companies and entrepreneurs succeed. And, we passed a 600 million dollar tax incentive to encourage investment not overseas, in India or China or Mexico, but right here in Michigan.

I signed the Jobs for Michigan Fund into law in November, and now in December we are turning the ignition on this new economic engine.

This week, I announced appointments to the non-partisan, professional board that will oversee the distribution of grants and resources to entrepreneurs and employers in Michigan.

These are exciting months ahead of us with that board in place. At the end of January, the Jobs for Michigan Fund will issue a request for proposals. On the first of February, start-up funds will be available to small businesses. And, by the end of spring, the first round of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs grants will be in the hands of Michigan innovators.

Who will these innovators and job providers be? Well, we hope one day they'll be the next Microsoft or Google or Apple right here in Michigan. We intend that the Jobs Fund will give those companies the financial boost to create exciting new products that will lead to thousands of jobs in Michigan – jobs for all kinds of workers wearing everything from blue collars to lab coats to white collars and suit coats.

We hope they'll thrive in the growth sectors of our economy, like the life sciences and alternative energy.

But right now we're targeting business with exciting promise – energized employers who are looking to expand their business and expand our high-tech horizons and expand our jobs.

As we look to the jobs of the future, we're also focused on jobs today. That's why I plan to sign almost \$600 million in tax cuts that will help our manufacturers keep jobs in Michigan. It will help make them more competitive in this global economy, which will

help them stay here in Michigan, invest here in Michigan, and most importantly, provide jobs here in Michigan today and in the future.

In fact, one of the bills that I will sign gives those businesses who are deciding where to consolidate their operations in this country, like Delphi or Ford or GM, it gives them zero taxes on their personal property if they decide to consolidate in Michigan in the next two years.

So with these tax cuts in place, I look forward to seeing the results of our entire Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan in the coming months and years.

Thanks for listening.