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Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2023

CONTACT:

Sara Wurfel, 517-599-3470 or swurfel@michamber.com

Michigan Chamber of Commerce Statement on Governor's 2023 State of the State

(LANSING, Mich.) – The Michigan Chamber of Commerce released the following statement from President & CEO Jim Holcomb on tonight's State of the State address from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer:

"There was a lot to like in the Governor's address tonight and that the Michigan Chamber and state's business community can rally around. That includes breaking down the barriers to employment by increasing affordable childcare and housing, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to support hardworking but struggling Michiganders or expanding civil rights protections – all of which help meet employers' talent and workforce needs and enhance economic opportunity for all. We also appreciate her emphasis on Michigan-made and -grown – we're eager to work with the Governor and Legislature to enact fiscally responsible, transparent economic development initiatives that retain and attract good paying jobs.

"At the same time, we are wary about what we did not hear given some of the legislative proposals already out there. We caution against pursuing major swings in public policy that would disrupt Michigan's economic recovery or competitiveness – including intruding on how job providers run their businesses or taking money out of Michiganders' pockets by repealing the state's landmark Right to Work law. We must continue focusing on doing the things that make our state ready and open for growth and prosperity.

"We urge the Governor and lawmakers from both sides of the aisle in both chambers to find the bipartisan, pragmatic solutions that can move Michigan forward. That's what our state needs and counts on. The Michigan Chamber is fully committed to that collaboration and cause."

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The Michigan Chamber of Commerce is a statewide business organization representing approximately 5,000 employers, trade associations and local chambers of commerce. The Michigan Chamber represents businesses of every size and type in all 83 counties across the state and employing more than 1 million Michiganders. The Chamber was established in 1959 to be an advocate for Michigan's job providers in the legislative, political and legal process.