



2/16/2024

House Appropriations Committee
110 North Capital Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear House Appropriations Committee,

Patrick Chenault, Administrator at the Battle Creek Promise Zone Authority, supports Senate Bills 350 and 555 and encourages their passage. Each bill will allow Promise Zones to better serve and support the needs of the students in our communities as it relates to postsecondary access, success, and attainment.

By passing Senate Bills 350 and 555, Promise Zones can expand their supportive reach by providing more financial assistance to address additional educational expenses beyond tuition, fees, and supplies. These additional expenses that a student incurs as part of their educational pursuit can often hinder their ability to remain in school and successfully attain a postsecondary degree or credential.

Additionally, Promise Zones will be able to provide intentional programming and resource support, ensuring students will complete their degree or credential program which will increase local and state-wide postsecondary attainment rates. This is a crucial component to workforce and economic prosperity in the state of Michigan, whose leaders should prioritize positioning the state as a leader ready to meet the demands and needs of the future economy.

Sincerely,

Patrick Chenault
Administrator, Battle Creek Promise Zone Authority
32 West Michigan Ave., Suite 1
Battle Creek, MI 49017