

Good afternoon.

My name is John Dillworth, President/CEO of Goodwill Industries of Southwestern Michigan, located at 420 East Alcott, Kalamazoo, MI 49001 covering Michigan's great southwest where last year we provided over 3,600 individuals and families seeking self-sufficiency with over 19,000 education, training and support services. One category of services is transportation, one of the primary barriers to employment especially when you consider that the population we work with is usually at the beginning of their employment career and they're not working 8 to 5, but nights, 2nd shift and weekends because that's what people do when they're starting out. We're also a long time member of the Michigan Manufacturer's Association and I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Senator Brandenburg on being named the MMA's Legislator of the Year in 2015.

Today, I'm representing not just Goodwill Industries of Southwestern Michigan, but the Goodwill Association of Michigan, which provides a hand up to over 46,000 individuals seeking to change their lives throughout our great state each year! Flexible transportation is a key component to hold a job in Michigan. In the first decade of the 21st century, there was a bi-partisan effort in the legislature that enacted a \$100 tax credit for joint owners of a vehicle if they donated their car to a non-profit whose primary mission was to obtain employment for people in the community they serve. The tax credit was \$50 for an individual. We would like to advocate for the return of the \$100 tax credit and make the credit \$100 regardless of whether the vehicle is owned by an individual or jointly owned. This will simplify how we communicate the tax credit to potential donors and generate more cars and vans for families seeking self-sufficiency in our communities across the state.

I appreciate your time and attention today and hope you can vote to reinstate the \$100 tax credit for individuals who donate their vehicle to organizations that provide employment related services.

Thank you.