



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

John Avery, Executive Director  
Michigan Economic Developers Association  
PH: 517-241-0011  
avery.john@medaweb.org

### **SENATOR STEPHANIE CHANG RECEIVES MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION AWARD**

**Lansing, Michigan – March 8, 2023** – State Senator Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) is recognized as a 2023 Legislative Economic Development Champion (LEDC) by the Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA). Legislative Director Caitlin Stadler accepted the award on her behalf on March 7th during the Association’s Capitol Day event at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan.

MEDA is a professional society with members throughout the state that attract and grow business, create, and retain jobs, and make our communities a better place to live. The Awards were developed in 2020 by the Association to recognize legislators that show a passion for championing economic development work by assisting economic development efforts that affect the entire state, assisting with local economic development projects, championing support for funding related to economic development programs and services, participating with their local economic development organization, or sponsoring economic development legislation. Three other legislators from Michigan’s House of Representatives and Senate were awarded in 2023.

Senator Chang’s nomination came from The Office of Wayne County Executive Evans because she is an active and successful advocate for the residents of her district, as well as the entire State of Michigan. She is a visual and accessible member of her community; an empathetic leader who enjoys the hard work required to understand local needs, economies, concerns, and possible policies. Her office is responsive with excellent constituent services. Additionally, Senator Chang’s candidacy for Senate Majority Leader and assignment as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee demonstrates the respect of her colleagues in Lansing. Related to economic development, Senator Chang was nominated her leadership in establishing the Great Lakes Maritime and Port Facility Assistance Grant Program (PA 159, 2022) and accompanying grant funds. The funding is vital for the growth of local ports and surrounding industry. The program also brings important attention to the general benefits and opportunities in the Michigan’s maritime industry. It sets the stage for a more robust economy that will create jobs, strengthen Michigan’s connections to the world and potentially help reduce carbon emissions and the stresses associated with climate change.

We look forward to Senator Chang’s continued leadership in championing economic development policy for Michigan.

**ABOUT MEDA**

The Michigan Economic Developers Association has partnered with economic developers to grow their community in Michigan for over 60 years. By providing education, networking, and advocacy, MEDA makes it possible for professionals to do their job more effectively and efficiently. To learn more, see [www.medaweb.org](http://www.medaweb.org).