



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENATOR JIM STAMAS RECEIVES MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION AWARD

Lansing, Michigan – March 9, 2021 – State Senator Jim Stamas (R-Midland) has been recognized as a 2021 Legislative Economic Development Champion by the Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA). In a grand show of appreciation, Senator Stamas was nominated by nine economic development leaders covering an eight-county region in East Central Michigan. The award was presented to him on March 9th during the Association’s Virtual Capitol Day event.

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 the restoration of funding for economic development, 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 2021.

Senator Stamas’ nomination came for support at the State and local level. During the pandemic, he took deliberate action to provide funds to help small businesses survive. He sponsored legislation for the Michigan Small Business Restart and the Michigan Small Business Survival Grants, which not only supported small business but also included grant administration fees that were used by the local EDO’s to recoup costs associated with managing the grant programs. In addition, the continued support of Senator Stamas in disaster recovery has been invaluable for Midland County. Following the May 19, 2020 failure of the Edenville and Sanford dams and resulting flood, Senator Stamas introduced Senate Bill 745, which appropriated \$6M in funding for disaster recovery, specifically supporting extensive cleanup efforts in Midland and Gladwin Counties. Recently, through the FY2021 General Fund budgeting process, he supported \$15.5 million for clean-up following the dam failures and continue the process to restore pre-flood conditions.

In his nomination letter, it was stated that, “Senator Jim Stamas has been a tireless supporter of small businesses and economic development organization throughout his career.”

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.