



**State Representative
Jack Cera**

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Tax Credit for Job Creation Passes Ohio House *Rep. Cera pleased with unanimous support of measure*

COLUMBUS- The Ohio House of Representatives is another step closer to offering tax credits for job creation opportunities in Ohio. According to Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire), the Ohio House of Representatives passed House Bill 135 today with unanimous support, 94-0. Rep. Cera joined Representative Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) earlier this year in the push for the tax credit legislation, citing that it will serve as a catalyst in creating good paying jobs that can keep our state's economic recovery moving in the right direction.

The tax credit is designed to spur manufacturing, as well as commercial and retail activity, on unused industrial sites which have lost their economic vitality. The credits can be used to give an income tax break to people who invest in projects, offering developers another means to get money for investing in manufacturing.

"Coming from an area of the state where there have been many plant closings, I believe such tax credits can be used for spurring redevelopment of an industrial site instead of demolition at that location," said Rep. Cera. "This may also help us preserve some of our history. As a child, I remember the beautiful building that housed the Imperial Glass Company, and I think of how wonderful it would be if it still stood in Bellaire. Unfortunately, it was razed due to bankruptcy caused by imports and high natural gas prices."

The Ohio legislation goes a step further than the Indiana program it is modeled after, as it provides a means for transferring the credit. The tax credit comes from a qualified investment being used for the rehabilitation of a vacant facility designated as an industrial recovery site. The legislation authorizes the Director of the Development Services Agency to designate a vacant facility as an "industrial recovery site" once an application by a County or Municipal Corporation has been completed. The Developer must show that the plan submitted to the Director will improve the economic conditions of the area in order to obtain the tax credit. Some of the factors in determining who is eligible for a tax credit include financial commitment and local support for the project.

"I am happy to join Rep. Pelanda in efforts to spur economic development and to create good-paying jobs across this state," Rep. Cera added.

He and Rep. Pelanda joined forces on this endeavor as they both strongly believe this credit can be used to create jobs and bring stability to economic recovery.

The bill now goes to the Ohio Senate for consideration.