



May 30, 2023

The Honorable Carol Glanville, Chair House Higher Education Committee

The Honorable Curt VanderWall, Minority Vice Chair House Higher Education Committee

Dear Chair Glanville and Minority Vice Chair VanderWall;

On behalf of both Northwestern Michigan College and Traverse Connect, we are writing in strong support of House Bill 4573 which would extend the Michigan New Jobs Training Program (MNJTP).

Since authorization in 2009, Northwestern Michigan College (NMC) has been an active participant in the use of the MNJTP. To date, NMC has worked to create 1,043 jobs through 48 participating employers throughout an 8-county area. Total contract investments for NMC alone amount to over \$9.7 million dollars.

During this time, Traverse Connect has also been a strong partner in helping to raise awareness and promote the use of this program to its business investors. The MNJTP has proven to be a critical tool in our mission to upskill workers to develop and retain talent in critical industries across northern Michigan. The extension of this program will provide a significant benefit to the businesses we represent.

Therefore, we are pleased to see HB 4573 introduced that would extend the life of this valuable program and strongly support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Nick Nissley, Ed. D., President Northwestern Michigan College Mr. Warren Call, President & CEO

Traverse Connect