

Submitter: Brian Latta

On Behalf Of: Mayor and City Council

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development and Small Business

Measure: HB2199

The Mayor and Council of the City of Dallas wholeheartedly support the passage of HB 2199 to extend the sunset of the enterprise zone program to 2035. The city of Dallas is the primary sponsor of an enterprise zone that also includes the cities of Monmouth and Independence and portions of rural Polk County. We actively use the benefits of the enterprise zone to attract new manufacturing industries and jobs to our communities.

Ascentec Engineering is a high tech design engineering and metal fabrication company, who work primarily in the semi-conductor and aerospace industries. In 2021, their company invested over \$13.6 million in their Dallas business and has brought over 50 living wage jobs to our community. Their expansions plans include adding another 100 jobs in the next two years. They came, in part, because of the enterprise zone tax relief benefits we were willing and able to offer them. Fred Tebb and Sons is another manufacturing business the city of Dallas was able to attract to our community in 2020 using the enterprise zone benefits. They invested \$727,000 in our community and have brought six new living wage jobs to Dallas.

The city has also been successful at using the enterprise zone to help thriving businesses expand. Open Road, a global logistics company with headquarters in Dallas is expanding their headquarters with a \$5.75 million building addition, and adding five additional living wage jobs. We authorized their business for enterprise zone benefits in 2022.

The city of Dallas has several vacant and partially vacant industrial properties inside our urban growth boundary. We have active plans to bring additional manufacturing companies to these properties and the enterprise zone program is an instrumental tool to incentivizing and attracting these businesses to our community.

We urge you to include the extension of the program to 2035 and to include this bill in the first semi-conductor package.

Sincerely,  
Brian Latta  
Dallas City Manager