

DANIEL T. KILDEE

5TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE ON  
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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

November 26, 2013

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Jane Hodgdon  
US Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue SW  
Room 4W219, LBJ  
Washington, DC 20202-3970

**Grant Name: Promise Zone**  
**Requesting Agency: Northern Transformation**

Dear Mrs. Jane Hodgdon:

I write in support of the Northern Transformation's application for the Promise Zone Grant.

The Promise Zone Initiative is a designation that will be awarded this year to five communities across America and marks the federal government's commitment to revitalize high poverty communities. Through the initiative, the federal government will invest and partner with high-poverty urban, rural and tribal communities to create jobs, increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, leverage private investment and reduce crime. Promise Zones are intended to coordinate and focus community-based programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Education (DOE), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Department of Agriculture (DOA), on high-poverty communities across the country.

Northern Transformation is the lead applicant applying for this designation which will benefit the residents and businesses in Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Iosco, Ogemaw and Roscommon Counties. Arenac and Iosco are two counties I represent in the Fifth Congressional District. This region has suffered far too long with multi-generational unemployment and employees lacking the skills required by businesses. The initiative will work under a Consortium of Partners of which includes Northern Transformation and more than 120 businesses and interested individuals. These partners will be eligible to receive extra points when applying for federal grants, as well as receive specialized technical assistance from various federal agencies to cut through red tape and answer questions. Businesses could obtain special incentives to grow or relocate to the region.

Again, I support the Northern Transformation's application for the Promise Grant and I hope you will look favorably upon this proposal to the extent federal law and agency regulations apply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Kildee".

Dan Kildee,  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS