

~~Strikethrough print~~ represents text which has been deleted.

Bold and italicized print represents text which has been added or modified.

Resolution Growth and Prosperity Program

Civic, elected, community, and economic development leaders throughout the Delta and the State of Mississippi, working through the Delta Council Development Department, sent their strong support to Mississippi legislators in ~~2015~~ **2019** for the continuation of a special state incentive program – Growth and Prosperity (GAP).

The group supported the efforts of the Legislature, with full backing by Governor Phil Bryant and his leadership at the Mississippi Development Authority, for passing legislation to clarify the language in the Growth and Prosperity Program (GAP) aimed at extending the cut-off date for state and local tax exemptions as part of this important economic development program for communities and counties that have economic disadvantages because of high unemployment and poverty criteria. This program is a critical component of the economic development program of work in these areas and both existing and new companies from all around our State such as Faurecia, Milwaukee Tool, Viking Range, Parmida, MAP Industries, NuFarm, Mars, Schulz Xtruded Products, Feuer Powertrain, Consolidated Grain and Barge, Indianola Pecan House, Delta Protein International, Express Oil Mill, Birdsong Peanuts, and Coburn Supply, among others have utilized this program in the past couple of years to help strengthen their commitment to the economy of our State. Because economic development incentives are routinely marketed and offered in 10-year increments, the extension of the program to ~~2029~~ **2033** means that the legislation will extend the full GAP incentives for 4 more years (until ~~2019~~ **2023**) for eligible companies, both new and existing. At this point, we will be going back to the Legislature in ~~2019~~ **2023**, with a unified message of the importance of the GAP Program and how it benefits communities in our State that are the most challenged.

Delta Council commends MDA and the Legislature, who passed the legislation unanimously in both chambers, for their recognition of the vital importance that the Growth and Prosperity Program plays in developing many areas of the Delta and State and hope they will continue that support in the ~~2019~~ **2023** Legislative Session.

**Adopted by: Delta Council Board of Directors
November 12, 2018**

