



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 2101
BOSTON, MA 02108

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DANIEL O'CONNELL
SECRETARY

TELEPHONE
(617) 788-3610

FACSIMILE
(617) 788-3605

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Dear Massachusetts Manufacturer:

I am the new Secretary of Housing and Economic Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. While I am very new to this position, I want to assure you that your business and all manufacturers in Massachusetts are important to me and Governor Patrick. We want to do everything we can to make our state a supportive environment for your operations. In order for us to do this, we need good information.

Accordingly, I ask that you complete the attached survey.

Under a state grant established by the legislature, the Center for Urban and Regional Policy at Northeastern University is gathering current information on Massachusetts' manufacturers. Both the state legislature and Governor Patrick's team are interested in better understanding what is being manufactured in the state, where the manufacturing is located, what factors or issues either support or hinder manufacturing, and what actions the state can take to bolster your ability to succeed in Massachusetts.

It is extremely important that you complete the attached survey or ensure that others in your company do so as soon as possible. It is

also possible to take the survey on line by going to
www.policyschool.neu.edu/research/manufacturing_study.
(User name: manufacturer, Password: curp07)

I assure you that this information will be carefully protected and no individual business information will be publicly disclosed. If you have any questions about this effort, please contact Don Walsh at Northeastern at either don.walsh@neu.edu or (617) 373-7872.

I am looking forward to receiving the results of this survey and working with Northeastern University, the Associated Industries of Massachusetts and several other advocates for manufacturing on the critical issues around maintaining and strengthening our state's industrial base. Your completion of this survey will help enormously.

Sincerely,

Dan O'Connell
Secretary of Housing and Economic Development
Commonwealth of Massachusetts