



June 5, 2023

Dear Lawmakers,

As one of the largest employers in the local region, and as a business partner with the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, we know first-hand the value of Pitt-Greensburg to Westmoreland County. We also know that our economy is stronger because of the University of Pittsburgh's success. As a leading public research institution and a longstanding community anchor, Pitt is a powerful lightning rod of opportunity, drawing precious companies, connections, talent, and funding into the commonwealth.

Across our many organizations—and for many compelling reasons—we count the University of Pittsburgh—and Pitt-Greensburg specifically—as one of our region and commonwealth's greatest assets and most vital economic engines. Pitt-Greensburg alone supports 810 family-supporting jobs, generates nearly \$80 million annually in economic impact for the region and generates \$4.1 million each year in tax revenue for local and state governments. All told the University and its four regional campuses in Bradford, Greensburg, Johnstown, and Titusville fuel a statewide economic impact of \$5.2 billion annually.

Attracting and retaining talent and diversifying our economy remains a key focus for the success of our region's job creators. Pitt has sustained our workforce with a 143,000-strong alumni network across southwestern PA—including a network of 10,000 Pitt-Greensburg graduates—and by educating 28,000 students each year, 66% call Pennsylvania home. Importantly, Pitt graduates about 7,500 students annually across its five campuses, strengthening our regional economy and workforce. Pitt-Greensburg was the first school in Westmoreland County to offer an accredited Bachelor of Science in nursing, which is the foundational degree for a nursing career, and they continue to adjust their academic programs based on industry needs.

As a top public university in the Northeast (The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education), a top-20 public school in the nation, and the No. 1-ranked Small Business Development Center in the Mid-Atlantic region, Pitt has been and will continue to be instrumental to our region's economic vitality and growth.

Through collaboration with private and public entities, the University of Pittsburgh continues its longstanding track record of diversifying and future-proofing our economy by nurturing innovation and moving ideas to market, having launched 738 startups over the last ten years.

These examples showcase why the University of Pittsburgh is our region's proven engine of opportunity. We are proud of Pitt's role in our community and grateful to have such a powerful ally in advancing the critical work of strengthening Pennsylvania's families, economies, and future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken DeFurio".

Ken DeFurio
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Fritz".

Brian Fritz
President, Westmoreland, Latrobe, Frick