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LT. GOVERNOR HELPS TAYLOR CHAIRS BREAK GROUND ON NEW FACILITY IN BEDFORD

Bedford - Lieutenant Governor Bruce Johnson today joined government officials, developers and private industry representatives at the groundbreaking of the Taylor Chair Company's new facility in Tinker's Creek Commerce Park. The \$6 million project is expected retain or create up to 70 jobs.

"Taylor Chair is one of our nation's oldest family businesses, and the craftsmanship of their workers is an excellent example the high quality of Ohio-made products," said Johnson, who also serves as state development director. "The public/private sector partnership commitment to keeping Taylor Chair here in Bedford is proof that when it comes to helping companies succeed, "Ohio Means Business."

During his remarks, Johnson applauded the efforts of state, federal, local and private sector officials to ensure that Taylor Chair was able to expand in Ohio. The company has purchased 11.2 acres of remediated land within a site being developed as Tinker's Creek Commerce Park in Bedford. The State of Ohio is providing infrastructure and financing assistance for this expansion project.

He also touted a number of recent steps to improve Ohio's business climate, including comprehensive civil justice reform, and tax reform that eliminates the corporate franchise tax and the personal tangible property tax on furniture and fixtures, inventory and machinery and equipment. It also reduces the personal income tax by 21%, bringing relief to families and the more than 300,000 small businesses that pay their taxes via the personal income tax.

He also asked state legislators to put the \$2 billion Jobs Bond Initiative on the ballot to ensure Ohio has traditional and technology infrastructure necessary to remain competitive. "Tort and tax reform is helping ensure Ohio has a business climate that serves as a catalyst for growth, not a roadblock," said Johnson. "By passing a bond initiative that invests in the infrastructure of tomorrow, we can send a clear message that 'Ohio Means Business'." If put on the ballot by the legislature and passed by voters in November, the bond initiative would provide \$1.35 billion for road, bridge and sewer infrastructure, \$500 million to boost technology initiatives and \$150 million to help local communities prepare sites to market to potential new business.

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