

STATE TREASURER & RECEIVER GENERAL, DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG



As treasurer, I have the privilege of supporting a range of initiatives that impact long-term sustainable economic growth in our state.

At the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), we are investing in 21st century classrooms where teachers are able to provide the education necessary for the jobs here in Massachusetts. *Meeting the Commonwealth's Workforce Needs* utilizes comprehensive data and innovative analysis to further explore this relationship between what our students learn today and educational requirements the job market will demand tomorrow.

A core piece of our mission at the MSBA is to enhance how we align capital projects in our schools with the critical thinking that a global economy demands across a range of industries – from health IT, precision manufacturing, service industries, and even cosmetology. As we work with communities across the state, we believe we can better match our school buildings to provide the environments needed for the skill sets necessary to grow our economic base. This also underscores the need to support 21st century learning in our public schools that is defined by project-based skill attainment, group workspace, and flexible classrooms.

The diversity of the Massachusetts economy highlights the need for strong post-secondary education options for our students, from vocational-technical schools and programs, to community colleges, and four-year colleges and universities. This report offers key insights into how these educational opportunities and challenges relate to the labor market.

I am grateful to Northeastern University's Kitty and Michael Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy and the thoughtful work from Alan Clayton-Matthews, Barry Bluestone, and Nancy Lee who made this report possible. At the MSBA, we look forward to helping shape the discussion around the state's future labor demands. Working together we will ensure that our state achieves its full economic potential.