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LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION - EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

6 June 2025

ATTENTION:

Hon. Helen Sauls-August
The Honourable Speaker
Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature
Bhisho

PER EMAIL: haugust@ecleg.gov.za / tmxenge@ecleg.gov.za

Dear Honourable Speaker

RE: REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION ON MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE - EASTERN CAPE JOB LOSSES

I hereby formally request, that in terms of Rule 126 of the Rules of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature, that a matter of public importance be placed on the Order Paper for Discussion on Tuesday, 10 June 2025. The matter concerns the deepening economic crisis and escalating job losses in the Eastern Cape.

The latest Quarterly Labour Force Survey confirms that our province continues to face the second highest unemployment levels in the country with 83 000 jobs lost in Quarter 1 of 2025. This crisis is further worsened by the rapid decline of key sectors, particularly the automotive industry.

While major manufacturers such as Mercedes-Benz South Africa are reducing output with approximately 700 jobs lost, Goodyear Tyres is now threatening 907 job losses, compounding an already dire situation. Despite Premier Mabuyane's public commitment to convene an Eastern Cape Economic Summit, this has yet to take place.

In this light, I request that the House urgently discuss the worsening unemployment, job losses and economic contraction, the impact of the automotive sector's decline on job security in our province, the failure to convene the promised Economic Summit and the immediate policy, budgetary and intergovernmental interventions required to avert further economic collapse.

I respectfully request that your office considers this submission with the urgency it warrants.

Yours sincerely,



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