

Editorial: The price looks right

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Ohio taxpayers are learning what it will cost to entice Chrysler Group LLC to add 1,105 good-paying jobs at its Toledo Assembly complex and to preserve at least 640 jobs at its machining plant in Perrysburg Township. The public investments appear worth making.

This week, the Ohio Tax Credit Authority and Gov. John Kasich offered \$16.3 million in state tax breaks and grants to encourage Chrysler to pursue both projects. That works out to roughly \$9,340 per new or saved job -- but the automaker is talking about initially spending \$365 million at Toledo Assembly and \$72 million at the machining facility. Other investments could follow.

The Toledo Assembly upgrade would enable Chrysler to restore a second shift at the plant that makes Jeep Liberty and Dodge Nitro sport utility vehicles, expand production of the Jeep Wrangler, and build new, fuel-efficient models at the complex. A Chrysler executive pointedly reminded members of the tax panel that unspecified "other states" are competing with Ohio for that work.

The investment at Toledo Machining will prepare the Perrysburg Township plant to build next-generation steering columns and torque converters.

Read full article here: <http://www.toledoblade.com/Editorials/2011/09/02/The-price-looks-right.html>

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