



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Joe
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Tate
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
Representative Young  
Representative McKinney  
Representative McFall
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Michigan Science Center
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
5020 John R St. Detroit MI, 48202
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Michigan Science Center
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Representative Joe Tate, 9th District
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution. The Michigan Science Center requests \$500,000 to support its Sponsors of Science initiative (SOS)- MI Scientists and Live Science programs, providing FREE STEM field trips, bus transportation, outreach, and Live Science demonstrations for under-resourced K-12 schools across Michigan. These programs inspire curiosity, enhance classroom learning, and promote STEM career interest. The initiative supports educational

workforce preparation and readiness, with high demand exceeding current funding and Mi-Sci's goal to continue to reach more counties in Michigan.

This funding will allow Mi-Sci to serve thousands of students and educators, especially from Title 1 and other qualifying schools, with no-cost access to exhibitions, immersive theaters at a discounted cost (IMAX®, 4D, and a new planetarium opening in Fall 2025), and newly introduced Live Science demonstrations. These live performances are designed to immerse students in scientific wonder, curiosity, exploration, and discovery by showcasing real experiments, interactive demonstrations, and high-energy engagement that connects core science concepts to real-world phenomena. The experience complements classroom learning, sparks interest in STEM careers, and helps close opportunity gaps for underserved youth.

This initiative will benefit the broader public by promoting workforce readiness, public understanding, and scientific literacy across Michigan by investing in youth access to informal science education.

**Appropriate Use of Taxpayer Funds:**

This request represents a responsible and appropriate use of public funds because it directly benefits Michigan students, particularly those most in need across the state, and supports the state's educational and economic development goals. The Sponsors of Science (SOS) initiative has a proven track record, with strong demand from schools seeking to enhance STEM curriculum through hands-on, experiential learning. The addition of Live Science demonstrations further increases the program's impact by transforming science from abstract content into memorable, meaningful experiences. As of the fall of 2024, the SOS fund was depleted due to demand, with over 85 schools already applying, including 3,500 students already scheduled. State funding would allow Mi-Sci to respond to this demand and maximize return on investment by expanding access to high-impact educational experiences.

**Compliance with Article IV, Section 30 of the Michigan Constitution:**

This request does not violate Article IV, Section 30 of the Michigan Constitution. No funds will be paid directly to any private individual or entity. Instead, funds will be allocated to a recognized nonprofit organization (Mi-Sci) to provide a public service—educational programming—for the direct benefit of Michigan K-12 school students. The use of appropriated funds to support field trip transportation and free access to high-quality STEM experiences, including Live Science demonstrations, fulfills a public purpose and is administered in a manner consistent with constitutional requirements.

**9. Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

**10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

500000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["State"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Thomas Stephens, Chair | General Motors (retired), Jacqueline Dedo, Vice Chair | Aware Mobility LLC, Orlando Bustos, Treasurer | Blue Sea Advisors LLC, Steve Ambrose, Secretary | DTE, Christine Barman | Rebuild Manufacturing, Micky Bly | FCA Group, Patrick Conroy | Penske Corporation, Jenny D'Anna | ITC Holdings, Jim Danahy | General Motors (retired), Bill Foy | Amazon Web Services, Michael Garrett | CNS Healthcare, Jody Ingle | Industrial Design Society of America, Gregory Ioanidis | ITC Holdings (former), Don Manvel | AVL North America, Inc., Roger Meyers | Bush Seyferth & Paige, PLLC, Marjace Miles | Ford Motor Company, Dan Naugle | Axalta Coating Systems, Jason Vazzano | Stellar Vessel, Eileen Lappin Weiser | State Board of Education (retired), Dan Heur | Nissan North America, Miles Johnson | Toyota Motor North America

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Start Date-October 1, 2025 End Date-September 30, 2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes