



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
John
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Roth
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.
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Discover Outdoor Michigan
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
241 East Eddy School Road, Mancelona MI 49659
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
n/a
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
John Expand access and opportunity to outdoor experiences to elected officials and their staff for educational purposes. Roth 104
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.
Discover Outdoor Michigan is a small 501c3 started in 2021 that is dedicated to introducing and providing the opportunity for people including disadvantaged inner-city youth to experience the outdoors in Michigan in a more consumptive fashion. When people are introduced to the great outdoors, specifically hunting and fishing, it often becomes a lifelong passion! With goals of completing an adventure, they are less likely to become wrapped up in unhealthy activities. Priorities change, attitudes change, planning

takes over and focus returns. Men, women, and children, young and old absolutely love sharing their stories and can't wait to go again. Preconceived political, socioeconomic barriers and boundaries along with geographical and societal differences disappear when calling a turkey, picking up Petoskey stones, foraging for mushrooms, or preparing venison for the table.

We are in the process of expanding, locking down access to property and acquiring the gear and equipment necessary to enhance the experience and provide a safe environment/place for people to enjoy uninterrupted. From a cabin(s) to stay in, to comfortable blinds to view wildlife and having the potential to make a harvest. The right equipment and space to handle the processing and preservation of the natural, organic, free-range protein collected and learning the skills to be self sufficient in a new way makes a huge difference.

Discover Outdoor Michigan needs your help. We are asking for a one-time appropriation of \$300,000 in the upcoming state budget to help us continue moving forward impacting lives on a broader scale. Outdoor experiences change lives, builds friendships, and can/will transform families.

We have a successful track record of igniting a passion, look no further than former Representative Harvey Santana and Representative Leslie Love as examples. I'm confident that they can share the enthusiasm my team and I impart while sharing and educating in the outdoors.

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.

300000

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

["None"]

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.'

Preston Casselman, Emma Cook, Rob Pallarito, Keith Shafer, Jason Geer

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:

10/2025-9/2026

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

Yes



Dear Representative,

12/03/2024

Discover Outdoor Michigan is a small 501c3 started in 2021 that is dedicated to **introducing and providing the opportunity** for people including disadvantaged inner-city youth to experience the outdoors in Michigan in a more consumptive fashion. When people are introduced to the great outdoors, specifically hunting and fishing, it often becomes a lifelong passion! With goals of completing an adventure, they are less likely to become wrapped up in unhealthy activities. Priorities change, attitudes change, planning takes over and focus returns. Men, women, and children, young and old absolutely love sharing their stories and can't wait to go again. **Preconceived political, socioeconomic barriers and boundaries along with geographical and societal differences disappear when calling a turkey, picking up Petoskey stones, foraging for mushrooms, or preparing venison for the table.**

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Please consider this request to expand/enhance an important outreach that helps strengthen individuals and families in Michigan leading to greater success regarding crime and violence intervention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Triston Cole", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Triston Cole

Executive Director, Discover Outdoor Michigan