



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Kathy
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Schmaltz
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:
Lean Rocket Lab
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
133 W Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
133 W Michigan Ave, Jackson, MI 49201
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Kathy Schmaltz, HD 46
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 Lean Rocket Lab (LRL) in Jackson, a designated MEDC SmartZone, Small Business Support Hub, and i4.0 Accelerator, fuels entrepreneurial growth across Michigan. It provides vital resources, mentorship, and programs for startups and small businesses, driving innovation and economic development statewide.

A state appropriation is essential to ensure LRL can continue its critical mission, particularly in supporting women-owned businesses. These funds would directly support

many programs, including specialized training, mentorship, networking, and access to capital for women entrepreneurs. This investment would also bolster LRL's overall capacity to serve all entrepreneurs, indirectly benefiting women-led ventures within the broader ecosystem.

Investing in LRL yields significant public benefits statewide. It fosters economic growth and job creation by supporting a diverse range of entrepreneurs, including women who often face unique challenges. It provides dedicated support for women entrepreneurs, empowering their economic independence and leadership, addressing a recognized need with statewide implications. Supporting women entrepreneurs brings innovation and diverse perspectives to Michigan's business landscape, enriching the entire entrepreneurial ecosystem. A thriving entrepreneurial environment, where women actively participate, contributes to community development and resilience across the state. Finally, LRL's established infrastructure as a SmartZone ensures efficient utilization of state funds, maximizing impact.

Utilizing taxpayer dollars for LRL is a strategic and appropriate investment. The state award would recognize the priority of supporting women's entrepreneurship. Supporting an organization with a high likelihood of success allows LRL to continue its vital work, which aligns directly with Michigan's broader economic development goals of fostering a diverse and thriving economy.

While LRL is located in Jackson, its impact and purpose extend far beyond local boundaries. Its role as an MEDC SmartZone and Small Business Support Hub positions it as a key driver of statewide economic growth. Supporting women entrepreneurs addresses a systemic statewide need, fostering a more robust economy for all of Michigan. Investing in LRL strengthens a key state partner in its economic development network. Therefore, this appropriation should be viewed as a strategic investment in Michigan's future economic vitality, benefiting the entire state, rather than solely serving a local or private purpose.

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.
150000

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

["Federal","State","Local","Private"]

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.'

○ Brandon Marken, LRL ○ Ken Seneff, LRL ○ Jennifer Rivera, CPA ○ Steve Rick, retired Attorney ○ Rich Collins, Commonwealth Associates ○ David Shirkey, Orbitform ○ Nadia Abunasser, MEDC ○ Sean Hilbert, Cobra AERO/MOTO ○ Martha Feurstenau, American 1 Credit Union

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:

The money would be spent within 12 months of disbursement.

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

Yes