



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Nancy
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Jenkins-Arno
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:  
Lenawee Now – Lenawee Economic Development
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
5285 W. US 223, Adrian, MI 49221
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Lenawee County
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Nancy Jenkins-Arno
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.  
Lenawee Now's legislatively directed appropriation request will fund the implementation of a career readiness program through the use of an innovative AI-powered digital platform designed to strengthen workforce development and career readiness in Southern Michigan.

This pilot program is a strategic investment that will empower students across the region by giving them access to cutting-edge tools that support career planning, peer

engagement, mentorship, and direct connection to post-secondary institutions and employers. This Pilot Program will bridge a critical gap between education and the workforce, ensuring that students are not only prepared for the future, but also aligned with the real-time needs of Michigan's job market.

By enabling earlier and more effective career exploration and planning, Lenawee Now's program will directly contribute to a stronger, more agile local workforce. Students will be equipped with personalized resources to make informed decisions about their futures—whether they choose trade schools, community colleges, universities, or direct entry into the workforce. This kind of support is vital in today's fast-changing economic landscape.

Moreover, the ripple effects of this initiative will be felt across the region: increased employability among young people, stronger ties between education and industry, and accelerated economic growth for the communities Lenawee Now serves. Investing in Lenawee Now is a smart, future-focused move that will deliver measurable benefits for both students and the state's broader economic development goals.

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.**

1250000

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.'

Jim Kapnick Chair Arell Chapman Vice Chair Jason Hess Treasurer Mindy Bradish-Orta Secretary Rick Gurdjian Mark Haag Jim Williams Julie Yaroch Jed Engle

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:

2025/2026 Fiscal Year

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

Yes