



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Parker
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Fairbairn
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:  
Mackinac Straits Health System, Inc.
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
1140 North State Street, St. Ignace, MI 49781
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:  
State Representative Parker Fairbairn, House District 107
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 funds requested will support the hospital's investment in critical robotic surgery and renovations. The hospital has grown rapidly over the past 15 years and requires additional space to serve the departments that have outgrown the existing space. The robotic surgery will serve 3 high need specialties, including general surgery, urology and gynecology. Patients that need this care are currently driving approximately 50 mile one-way at times through difficult weather and across the Mackinac Bridge, forcing patients to delay or go without needed care because of bridge closures or weather that prevents

the hours long travel to other providers. The Hospital provides high-quality, cost-effective care that is the backbone of the community and economy for the region and Mackinac Island's 1 million visitors a year.

Robotic technology enables minimally invasive approaches, with faster recovery times that would otherwise require open surgery, enhancing both patient safety and satisfaction. This is also a critical recruitment and retention tool for the hospital. Physicians are robotically trained in residency and fellowship programs today. Given the significant investment in their education, physicians must have a surgical center that offers the robotics, as most surgeons simply won't operate without it. Technology is vital to ensure they continue to deliver the highest standard of care.

The hospitals Medicare/Medicaid payor mix totals 66%. Coupled with the decline in reimbursement rates, it is increasingly difficult for the hospital to build up the large fund balance to purchase new technology and make necessary building improvements without one-time support from the State. After the initial investment, ongoing State support will not be needed as the Hospital has all of the necessary resources in place to support and sustain this long-term investment.

Mackinac Straights is a Critical Access Hospital, Independent, not for profit, 501 (c) (3).

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.

7000000

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.'

Steve Autore – Chair, Patrick Shannon - Vice Chair, Margaret Doud – Secretary, Mark Elmblad – Treasurer, Karen Cheeseman - President & CEO, James North, Richard Smith, Prentiss Brown, Christine McPherson, R.D. Musser, III (Dan), Lydia Watson MD, Bryan Cross, Robert Currier DO – COS, John Moffat MD – VCOS, Susan H. Strich MD – PCOS

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 project will begin in Fiscal Year 2026 and will be expended over the course of the project, which is anticipated to be completed in 2027.

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

Yes