



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Tom
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Kunse
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:
Ferris State University
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
1201 S State St, Big Rapids, MI 49307
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
Allied Health Sciences Building at Ferris State University
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Tom Kunse, District #100
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.
This proposal encompasses renovation and expansion of the Allied Health Sciences Building, that will result in expansion of approximately 20,000 additional square feet of the original 67,000 sq. foot facility. The Allied Health Sciences Building is the home of the Ferris State University College of Health Professions. Ferris is the largest producer of the healthcare workforce in west Michigan. According to the Michigan Dental Association, there has been a 30% decline in the dental hygienist workforce over the last 5 years. This renovation will double the size of the dental hygiene program-addressing

immediate and critical shortages in the dental workforce. Similarly, this renovation will facilitate the growth and expansion of the nursing program-addressing ongoing shortages in the nursing workforce across Michigan.

More than a teaching and learning facility, the Allied Health Sciences Building is also home to the Ferris State University Dental Hygiene Clinic which treats both adults and children. The clinic serves as a safety net provider for oral health services since we reside in a dental health professional shortage area where access to care is limited. As this safety-net provider, they deliver oral health preventive services to the uninsured, the Medicaid population, our veterans, and others vulnerable adult populations. Several "Free Children's Prophylaxis Days" occur throughout the year where children up to age 13 are eligible to receive free dental cleanings, x-rays, and fluoride treatments through their dental hygiene clinic. Veterans are eligible to receive services for free at the clinic. Renovation of this facility will support patient privacy, make major improvements to accessibility, and substantially upgrade the building systems that support patient safety.

92% of Ferris State graduates choose to stay in Michigan after they have earned their certificate, credential, or degree from Ferris State University. Michigan taxpayer dollars invested in our students stay in Michigan. This request supports our workforce by addressing critical healthcare shortages, supports our students as they look to stay in Michigan, build a career and support their families, and supports a critical component of the rural healthcare network that is being stretched increasingly thin in many parts of our state.

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.

29000000

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

["None", "Private"]

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

University/College

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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.'

n/a

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:

Spring '26-Fall '28

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

Yes