



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Mai
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Xiong
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.  
Representative Natalie Price, House District 6  
Representative Donovan McKinney, House District 11  
Representative Stephanie Young, House District 16  
Representative Laurie Pohutsky, House District 17  
Representative Stephen Wooden, House District 81
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Global Detroit
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
2050 15th Street, Suite 312, Detroit, MI 48216
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:  
Statewide
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 purpose of the legislatively directed spending item is to support and strengthen existing statewide programming and resources through the Michigan Global Talent Initiative (MGTI). See [www.michiganglobaltalent.org](http://www.michiganglobaltalent.org). Through seven strategic

initiatives, the Michigan Global Talent Initiative was designed to add 100,000 to 125,000 college-educated immigrants to the Michigan workforce by 2030, focusing on: attracting and retaining high-skilled New Americans, international students, and entrepreneurs to Michigan while leveraging their skills, degrees, and experience; training and/or credentialing new residents as well as those already here; and placing this skilled and credentialed workforce with Michigan employers to fill unmet talent needs, establishing Michigan as a center for prosperity.

The Michigan Global Talent Initiative aligns with the State's Sixty by 30 workforce development initiative, set forth by Governor Whitmer in 2019, to solve Michigan's talent needs. The Governor set an ambitious goal that 60% of the Michigan workforce possess a college degree or professional credential by 2030. To reach that goal, accounting for the skill levels of Michigan residents aging in and out of the workforce, the state would need to add 450,000 skilled workers over the next 11 years. By adding 100,000 to 125,000 college-educated immigrants to the Michigan workforce through MGTI programming, global talent will account for roughly 25% of the talent needed to meet the state's ambitious goal and would nearly double the growth rate of skilled immigrant attraction and retention.

Newly released 2024 Census data documents immigration's enormous contribution to meeting Michigan workforce and talent needs. Not only is immigration responsible for all of Michigan's net population growth over the past half decade, but an analysis by Global Detroit of the 2024 Census numbers suggests that Michigan has added 54,674 college-educated immigrants to its workforce since 2019. MGTI was premised on the notion that a Do-Nothing Strategy would likely add 65,000 more college educated immigrant workers to the Michigan economy based on 2011-2018 immigration trends. By adding 54,674 college-educated workers to the Michigan economy, MGTI is on pace to add over 120,000 college-educated immigrants by 2030 or more than 25% of the total talent needed.

MGTI is supported by the Michigan Global Talent Coalition, a statewide coalition of 25 leading business, industry and economic development organizations including Business Leaders of Michigan, Detroit Regional Chamber, Grand Rapids Chamber, Traverse Connect, Invest UP, Midland Business Alliance, Small Business Association of Michigan and several other similar organizations. MGTI is staffed by Global Detroit and works with more than 50 university, community college, workforce development, national nonprofit, chamber of commerce, local economic development and private sector partners. MGTI includes the nation's largest international student retention program, investment in community colleges, skilled immigrant integration programs, contextualized ESL programs, as well as innovative programs to support immigrant-led high-tech startup programs.

**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.**

5000000

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

["State", "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.'

Tati Amare, Jim Becker (Board Chair), Omar Cuevas, Rami Fakhoury, Greg Handel, Grace Lee (Board Treasurer), Luz Viviana Meza, Karen Phillippi, and Gracie Xavier

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:

October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026

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

Yes