

# **Budget Briefing: Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**

Una Jakupovic, Fiscal Analyst

## Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) contains agencies and programs that regulate the following sectors:

- Alcoholic beverage distribution and sales
- Commercial and occupational activities
- Construction and fire safety
- Health care and human services
- Medical and adult-use marijuana and hemp
- Public utilities

Entities within LARA also conduct administrative hearings and rulemaking for state departments, support the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission and the Unarmed Combat Commission, and administer several grant programs.

March 2025

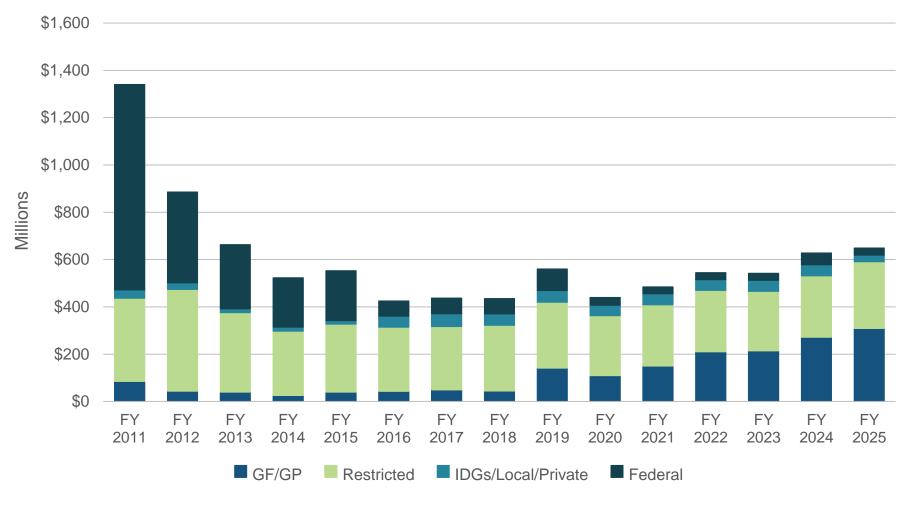
## **Briefing Topics**

- Funding Overview
- Appropriation Areas
- Major Budget Topics

## **Funding Overview**

## **LARA Funding History**

Elevated federal funding in FY 2010-11 was primarily from temporary federal ARRA grants, with subsequent funding fluctuations resulting largely from reorganizations (transferring of state agencies into and out of LARA). Funding increased in FY 2023-24, primarily due to increased MIDC grant amounts.



House Fiscal Agency 5 March 2025

## Historical Enacted Appropriations and FTE Authorizations

From FY 2020-21 to FY 2024-25, gross appropriations increased by about **34**% and FTE authorizations declined by about **2**%.

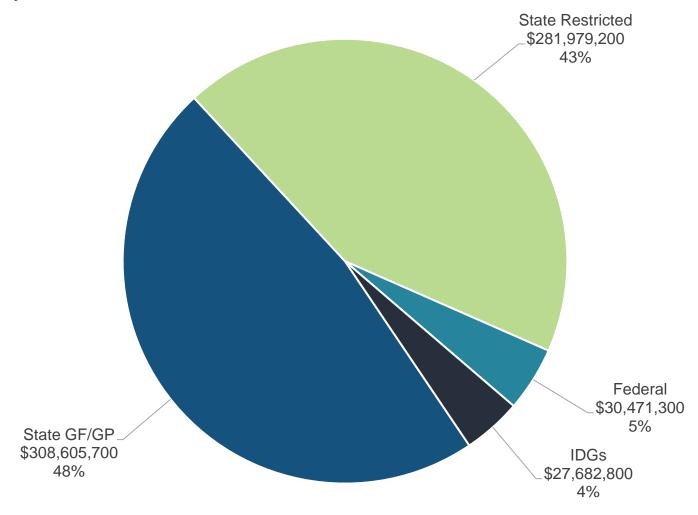
	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
FTE	1,857.9	1,857.9	1,879.9	1,893.9	1,821.0
Gross	\$484,389,600	\$517,236,400	\$539,834,400	\$627,940,900	\$648,739,000
IDG	\$46,664,600	\$45,079,800	\$47,026,900	\$46,897,200	\$27,682,800
Federal	\$28,823,700	\$29,030,900	\$29,659,200	\$50,004,200	\$30,471,300
Local	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Private	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Restricted	\$259,295,700	\$258,929,800	\$249,325,900	\$259,708,400	\$281,979,200
GF/GP	\$149,605,600	\$184,195,900	\$213,822,400	\$271,331,100	\$308,605,700

## FY 2024-25 LARA Budget

Fund Source	Funding	Description	
Gross Appropriations	\$648,739,000	Total spending authority from all revenue sources	
Interdepartmental Grants (IDG) Revenue	27,682,800	Funds received by one state department from another state department, usually for services provided	
Adjusted Gross Appropriations	\$621,056,200	Gross appropriations excluding IDGs; avoids double counting when adding appropriation amounts across budget areas	
Federal Revenue	30,471,300	Federal grant or matching revenue; generally dedicated to specific programs or purposes	
Local Revenue	0	Revenue received from local units of government for state services	
Private Revenue	0	Revenue from individuals and private entities, including payments for services, grants, and other contributions	
State Restricted Revenue	281,979,200	State revenue restricted by the State Constitution, state statute, or outside restriction that is available only for specified purposes; includes most fee revenue	
State General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) Revenue	\$308,605,700	Unrestricted revenue from taxes and other sources available to fund basic state programs and other purposes determined by the legislature	

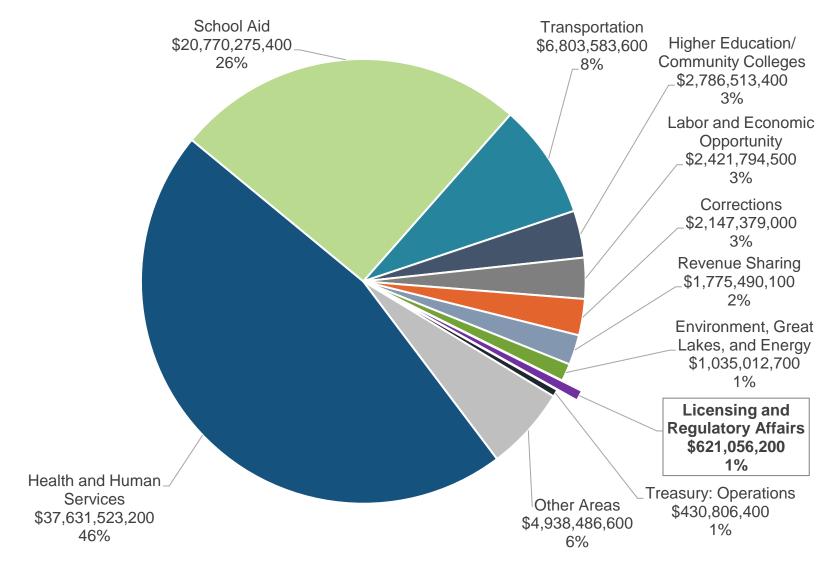
#### FY 2024-25 Fund Sources

Approximately **43**% of the **\$648.7 million** LARA budget is funded by state restricted revenue generated from fees and fines levied on individuals, entities, and activities regulated by LARA.



## **LARA Share of Total State Budget**

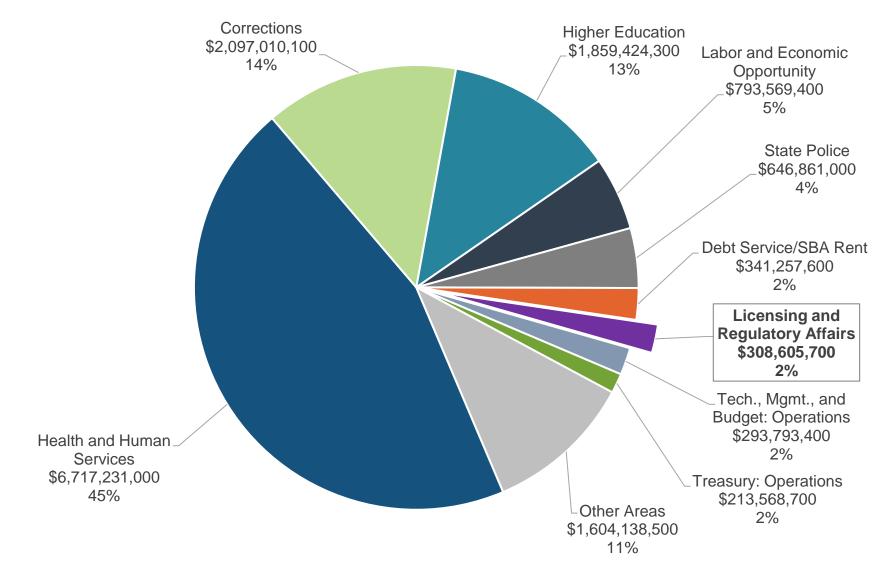
The LARA budget represents approximately **1%** of the **\$81.4 billion** state budget (adjusted gross) for FY 2024-25.



House Fiscal Agency 9 March 2025

## LARA Share of Total GF/GP Budget

The LARA budget represents approximately **2%** of the state's **\$14.9 billion** GF/GP budget for FY 2024-25.



## **Appropriation Areas**

## **LARA Appropriation Areas**

**Departmental Administration and Support:** Various administrative functions (executive direction, lease obligations and property costs, etc.)

Public Service Commission: Regulation of electricity, natural gas, and telecommunications

**Liquor Control Commission:** Regulation of alcoholic beverages and oversight of the state's wholesale liquor operations

**Occupational Regulation:** Regulation of commercial, occupational, construction, fire safety, and health care and human service activities, entities, and facilities

**Cannabis Regulatory Agency:** Oversight of medical and adult-use marijuana activities and facilities and hemp licensing

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules: Provision of administrative hearing functions and rulemaking

**Commissions:** Staffing and administrative costs for the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission and the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission

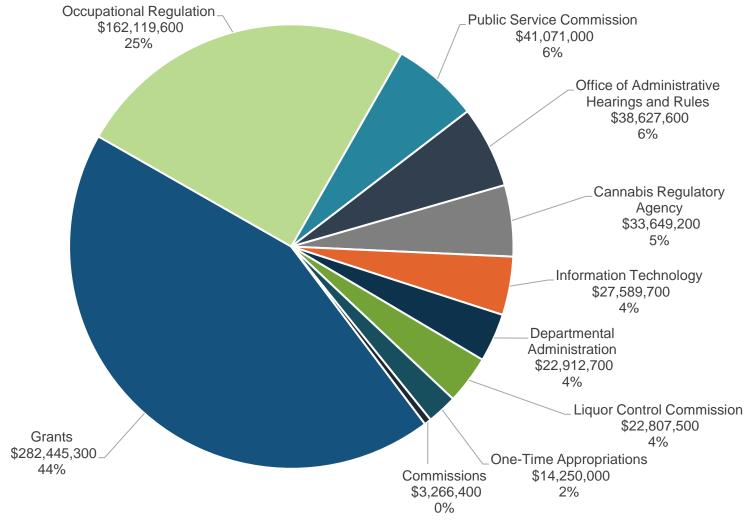
**Grants:** Various state grant programs, largely financing specified functions of local units of government

Information Technology: Supports IT services and projects

One-Time Appropriations: Various projects and programs intended as one-time allocations

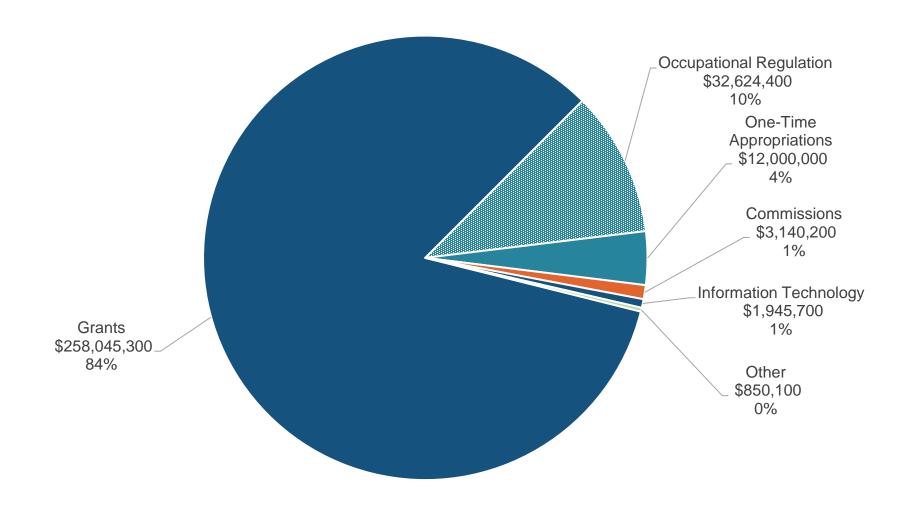
## **FY 2024-25 Gross Appropriations**

Of the total **\$648.7 million** LARA budget, **44%** supports grants, primarily funded by GF/GP, and **25%** supports occupational regulation, primarily funded with state restricted revenues.



### FY 2024-25 GF/GP Appropriations

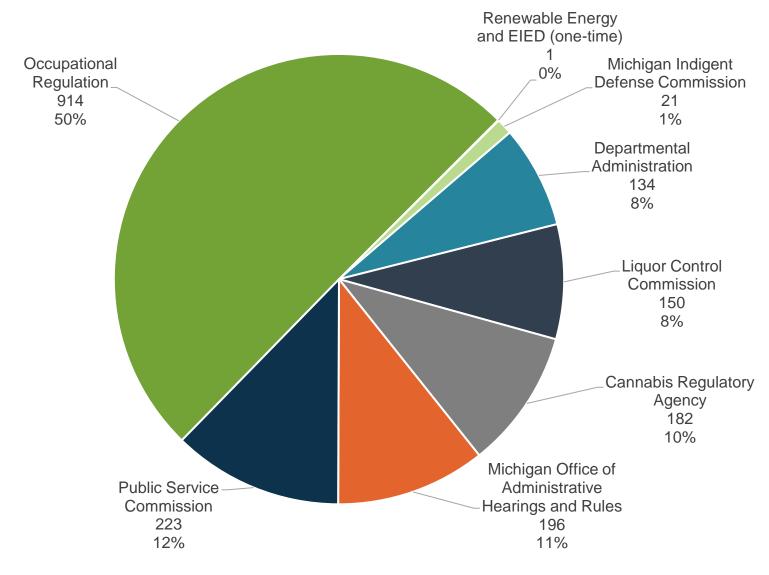
Approximately **94%** of the total **\$308.6 million** in GF/GP funds are contained in the Grants (for MIDC grants) and Occupational Regulation (primarily for regulating health and human services facilities) appropriation units.



House Fiscal Agency 14 March 2025

#### **FY 2024-25 FTE Authorizations**

Of the total **1,821.0** FTEs authorized in FY25, about **50%** are allocated to the six bureaus within the Occupational Regulation unit.

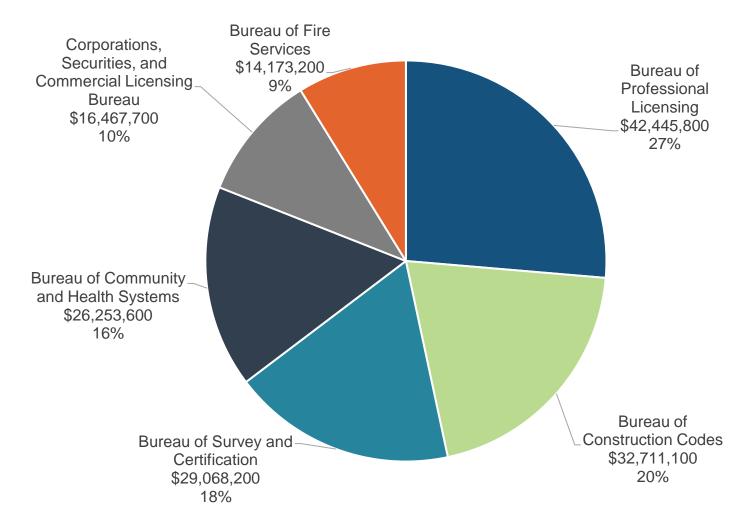


House Fiscal Agency 15 March 2025

## **Major Budget Topics**

## **Occupational Regulation**

Of the total \$161.1 million appropriated for the six bureaus displayed below, about 64% comes from restricted sources, 20% from the general fund, and 16% from federal funds. *Note:* urban search and rescue (\$1.0 million GF/GP) is appropriated under the occupational regulation unit but is discussed under grants on slide 24.



## Michigan Indigent Defense Commission

- Since FY 2018-19, grants have been distributed to funding units of district and circuit courts for implementation of MIDC-approved compliance plans to bring systems into compliance with indigent defense standards
- Approved standards pertain to:
  - Education and training of defense counsel
  - Timing and location of attorney-client interviews
  - Defense investigations and experts in indigent cases
  - Presence of counsel at first appearance and other trial stages
  - Ensuring independence of indigent defense systems from the judiciary
  - Indigent defense workloads
  - Attorney qualifications to handle different case types
  - Economic incentives and disincentives, including attorney compensation
- \$3.1 million GF/GP is appropriated to cover administrative costs of the commission in FY 2024-25
- \$258.3 million Gross is appropriated for grants in FY 2024-25

## **MIDC Appropriations**

Fiscal Year	MIDC Administration Funding	MIDC Grant Funding
FY 2020-21	\$2,714,000 GF/GP	\$117,267,400 GF/GP \$200,000 Restricted
FY 2021-22	\$2,699,400 GF/GP	\$148,617,400 GF/GP \$300,000 Restricted
FY 2022-23	\$2,763,000 GF/GP	\$148,617,400 GF/GP \$300,000 Restricted
FY 2023-24	\$3,167,400 GF/GP	\$220,617,400 GF/GP \$300,000 Restricted
FY 2024-25	\$3,140,200 GF/GP	\$258,045,300 GF/GP \$300,000 Restricted

## Michigan Public Service Commission

- The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) consists of a three-member body of commissioners appointed by the governor along with a professional staff
- Responsibilities of the Commission include:
  - Enforcing state laws governing the energy and telecommunications industries
  - Regulating the rates and services of privately owned natural gas and electric utility companies
  - Regulating and inspecting natural gas pipeline infrastructure
- MPSC appropriations for FY 2024-25 total \$41.0 million from the following funding sources:
  - **\$3.0 million** from the U.S. Department of Transportation (gas pipeline safety)
  - \$38.0 million from Public Utility Assessments

## Michigan Liquor Control Commission

- The responsibilities of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) include:
  - Serving as the wholesaler of all spirits in Michigan
  - Issuing licenses to alcohol suppliers, wholesalers, and retailers
  - Enforcing the state's liquor laws and conducting surveillance operations
- The Liquor Control Code requires the MLCC to set minimum liquor prices to ensure the commission and retailers earn profits specified in the code (commission adds a markup and licensees receive a discount)
  - All excess revenue generated by the commission from the sale of liquor is deposited into the state's general fund
- MLCC appropriations for FY 2024-25 total \$22.8 million from the following restricted funding sources:
  - \$13.9 million from the Liquor Purchase Revolving Fund
  - \$8.9 million from licensure and permit fees

## **Cannabis Regulatory Agency**

- The Cannabis Regulatory Agency (CRA) is responsible for oversight of the following areas/programs:
  - Michigan Medical Marihuana Program state registry cards and caregivers
  - Medical marihuana facilities and licensees
  - Adult-use marihuana establishments and licensees
  - Hemp processor-handlers
- CRA appropriations for FY 2024-25 total \$33.6 million from the following restricted funding sources:
  - \$300,000 from the Industrial Hemp Licensing and Registration Fund
  - \$3.2 million from the Marihuana Registry Fund (registry card program)
  - \$22.0 million from the Marihuana Regulation Fund (adult-use)
  - \$8.1 million from the Marihuana Regulatory Fund (medical marihuana facilities)

### **Department Grant Programs**

**Firefighter Training (\$2.3 million Gross):** Awarded to counties, determined via population and land area subject to a \$5,000 minimum, to reimburse organized fire departments for firefighter training and other activities required under the Firefighter Training Council Act of 1966

Liquor Law Enforcement (\$9.9 million Gross): Awarded to local law enforcement agencies, approximately equivalent to 55% of revenue generated by retail liquor licensure fees collected within each jurisdiction. Grants are used for enforcement of the Liquor Control Code of 1998 and rules promulgated under the code

Marihuana Operation & Oversight (\$3.0 million Gross): Awarded to counties, upon application and proportional to the number of medical marihuana registration cards issued or renewed in each county, for education and outreach relating to the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act

**Remonumentation (\$6.8 million Gross):** Awarded to counties, upon application and subject to minimum allocations of recording fees collected by Register of Deeds for each county, for implementation of plans to survey, remonument, and maintain the original national Public Land Survey System corners

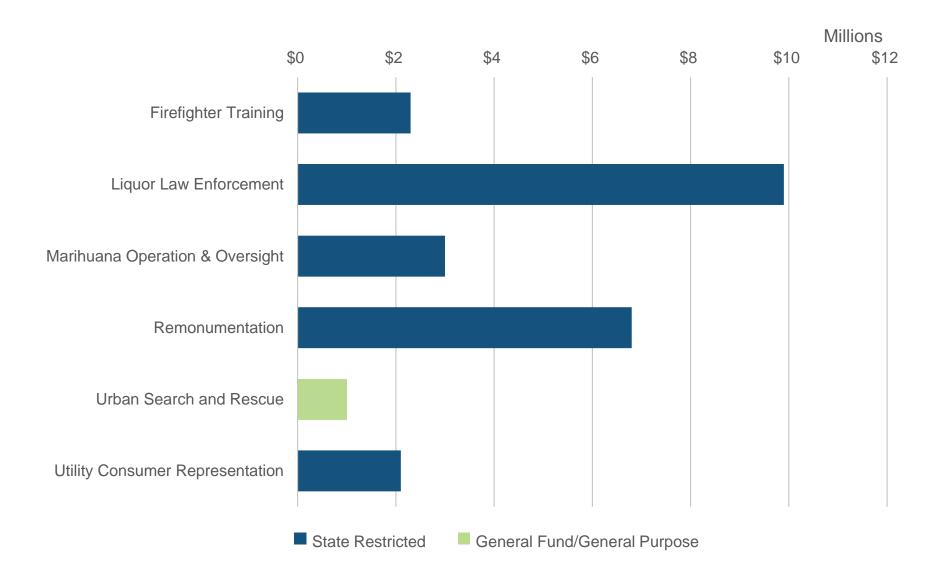
## **Department Grant Programs (Continued)**

**Urban Search and Rescue (\$1.0 million GF/GP):** Awarded to the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System for costs associated with supervisory and essential functions at incidents where technical rescue expertise and equipment are required for effective rescue operations

**Utility Consumer Representation (\$2.1 million Gross):** Administered by the Utility Consumer Participation Board (UCPB) and awarded to nonprofit organizations and local units of government for representation and advancement of the interests of residential utility customers in administrative and judicial proceedings pertaining to utility rates

It should be noted that the FY 2024-25 budget also contains three one-time appropriations for grants.

### **Department Grant Appropriations**



## **Other Appropriations**

- Departmental Administration (\$22.9 million Gross): Includes executive and administrative functions and overhead expenses
- Information Technology (\$27.6 million Gross): Supports IT services and projects provided by DTMB and other IT-related expenses
- Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (\$38.6 million Gross):
   Supports MOAHR staff and operations; MOAHR is responsible for conducting
   hearings and adjudications of cases and appeals related to regulations and
   programs of various state departments and agencies; MOAHR oversees
   administrative rulemaking; the Tax Tribunal is also supported by this section
- Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission (\$126,200 Gross): Supports regulation of professional boxing and mixed martial arts
- FY 2024-25 One-Time Appropriations (\$14.3 million Gross): Total of seven appropriations, including funding for a 5-year energy waste reduction study, smoke detector distributions, renewable energy project grants, and juvenile indigent defense grants

# For more information about the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs budget:

#### **HFA Resources**

http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/Licensing.asp

#### **Contact Information**

Una Jakupovic

Fiscal Analyst

ujakupovic@house.mi.gov

(517) 373-8080