



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Helena
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Scott
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:
  - BFDI Educational Service Inc
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
  - Hope Academy, 12121 Broadstreet, Detroit, MI 48204-1550
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:  
Helena Scott
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 underlying of purpose of this legislatively directed spending item is to unite charter leaders with the shared vision of improving Detroit's educational landscape for parents and scholars through advocacy, public policy development, teacher recruitment, and talent development. We are requesting state grant funding that will allow us to enhance our collective initiatives to share best practices, recruit qualified teachers and train the next generation of charter leaders. We believe these efforts will improve the quality of instruction and learning in our schools as well as enhance desired educational outcomes

for our scholars. State funding will be used to support the following priority initiatives:

- a) Teacher Recruitment – This initiative leverages creative teacher recruitment tools to identify a pool of highly-qualified and passionate educators to compliment existing staff resources. The initiative utilizes a robust marketing campaign and innovative strategies to identify the best and the brightest to teach our scholars. For example, our model teacher program has resulted in the One strategy is to offer more competitive pay through our model teacher programs.
- b) Leadership Development Training – This professional development training program features renowned charter leaders who benchmark best practices for future charter leaders through seminars, weekend classes and conferences.
- c) Community of (Best) Practice Initiative – This initiative includes the sharing of instructional and operational best practices amongst member schools and organizations (incl., curriculum, finance, budgeting, operational processes and procedures, etc.)

In Detroit, charter schools educate 50% of the City’s school-age children. Over the years, we have pioneered culturally responsive models that reflect our students’ identities and experiences, fostering a more inclusive and empowering learning environment. We recognize the systemic barriers that have long marginalized students of color, and we are actively working to dismantle these inequities through targeted advocacy and policy reform. Our work goes beyond the classroom. By leveraging innovative approaches and a deep understanding of our communities, we are transforming the educational landscape, providing students with the tools to succeed academically and in life.

While the public benefits of this project are many, some key benefits include:

- a) The future elimination of resource disparities in the State’s public school system, and equitable distribution of funding for schools serving marginalized communities.
- b) Promoting Culturally Responsive Education: Advocating for educational models that reflect and validate the cultural backgrounds and lived experiences of the students we serve.
- c) Highlighting Innovation in Education: Showcasing how innovative approaches like personalized learning and community engagement are closing opportunity gaps, with potential for broader implementation.
- d) Increasing Investment in Underserved Schools: Seeking support from stakeholders for greater investment in schools serving marginalized students, providing access to quality resources and learning environments.
- e) Building Alliances for Educational Policy Reform: Forging partnerships to create a coalition for long-term, sustainable change for underserved students across Michigan.

**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.**

1000000

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

["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.'

• Robert Thornton • Earlexia Norwood, MD • Dr. Ann C. Smith • Dr. Phyllis I. Vroom

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 2025 – September 2026

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

Yes