



# MICHIGAN SENATE

## Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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Date Submitted: 02/09/2026

**1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:**

Senator John N. Damoose

**2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):**

N/A

**3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:**

University of Michigan Medicine / University of Michigan Health Survival Flight

**4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:**

1500 E. Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48109 – the chopper / air ambulance would be housed at our Brighton, MI hangar, however, the asset will benefit the entire state of Michigan, providing air ambulance support statewide.

**5. The recipient's employer identification number:**

386006309

**6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:**

\$10,000,000.00

**7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?**

\$10 million toward to total purchase price of approximately \$30 million for a replacement air ambulance helicopter. Over the past few years, private air ambulance providers and services have closed due to the lack of financial viability. This has left large areas of the state, with large population centers as well as rural areas, without lifesaving air ambulance coverage. Additionally, private air ambulance services do not have sophisticated air support to respond to areas of the U.P. without stopping to refuel. The UM Survival Flight fleet and team can provide critical, life saving and timely support to the most critically injured patients throughout the entire state. Due to the age of our fleet – replacement parts are no longer available.

Supporters of the UM Survival Flight program have lobbied over the past three years to obtain enough funds to replace one air ambulance unit. Our total fleet is three helicopters in continuous rotation – one ready to serve at any moment, one on standby and one in maintenance / repair. Over the course of those three years, the Survival Flight program has been awarded grants to go toward the purchase of one new unit but have not received enough to fully purchase a new air ambulance helicopter.

**8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:**

Federal, State

**Amount**

\$10,500,000.00

**9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:**

Once enough funds are raised for a new air ambulance helicopter unit, there is not time of completion, air ambulance service will be provided indefinitely.

**10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?**

Yes

*Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)*

*The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.*

**1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?**

Yes

**2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?**

Yes

**3. Does the organization have a board of directors?**

Yes

**4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:**

Jordan Acker, Michael Behm, Mark Bernstein, Paul Brown, Sarah Hubbard, Denise Illitch, Carl Meyers and Katherine White

*Certification By Sponsoring Legislator*

*"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."*

*"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."*

*"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."  
Senator John N. Damoose*