



Hillsdale Service Center

21 Care Dr.
Hillsdale, MI 49242
P: (517) 437-3381
F: (517) 437-3098

Jackson Service Center

Commonwealth
Commerce Center
209 E. Washington Ave.
Suite 100
Jackson, MI 49201
P: (517) 841-5627
F: (517) 796-8390

Lenawee Service Center

Human Services Building
1040 S. Winter St.
Suite 1014
Adrian, MI 49221
P: (517) 266-5627
F: (517) 266-2745

Livingston Service Center

Mott Community College
Livingston Center
1240 Packard Dr.
Howell, MI 48843
P: (517) 546-7450
F: (517) 522-2145

Washtenaw Service Center

304 Harriet St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
P: (734) 714-9814
F: (517) 481-2516

Re: Support Needed for Funding for Going PRO Talent Fund

Dear _____:

Employers named below have signed an online petition requesting continued funding for the Going PRO Talent Fund.

Michigan needs highly-skilled talent now more than ever. We will be facing a professional trade workforce gap of over 545,000 job openings by 2026.

The Going PRO Talent Fund has proven to be one of the most effective resources available to address Michigan's talent crisis, providing awards directly to employers for short-term training needs that have long lasting positive impact.

From 2016-last budget year, the five-county Michigan Works! Southeast region:

- 198 employers received \$7.9+ million
- 761 were created and 2,762 jobs were retained
- 248 USDOL apprenticeships completed

The Going PRO Talent Fund is working.

There are 92 employers in Southeast Michigan who submitted requests totaling \$3.5 M. Lack of funding will jeopardize their ability to invest in their workforce and in the economic well-being of our region.

We ask that funding for GPTF be included in a supplemental appropriation and if possible, increased from last year's levels. In FY 19, businesses in our region applied for approximately \$4.7 million, with employers statewide applying for \$50 million in eligible training, eclipsing the \$29.1 million available. This is a lost opportunity for Michigan and the businesses of Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston and Washtenaw counties.

Please consider this information when making a decision about funding the Going PRO Talent Fund. Feel free to reach out to me directly if you would like more data or success stories from your district.

William Sleight, Director
Michigan Works! Southeast