

Legislative Analysis



UPDATE REFERENCES TO APEX ACCELERATORS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 481 as reported from House committee

Sponsor: Sen. Veronica Klinefelt

House Committee: Economic Development and Small Business

Senate Committee: Economic and Community Development

Complete to 11-13-24

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 481 would amend 2006 PA 317 to reflect the renaming of procurement technical assistance centers (PTACs) as APEX Accelerators.

The act establishes the Michigan Defense Center,¹ originally the Defense Contract Coordination Center, in the Michigan Strategic Fund as part of the 21st Century Jobs Trust Fund. The office's purpose is to focus on job creation and retention from business opportunities associated with the PTAC for homeland security and defense contracts, and it must coordinate with PTACs in Michigan to maximize those business opportunities for the state's small businesses and small business innovation research programs.

The bill would amend the act to reference APEX Accelerators rather than PTACs in order to align with recent updates to the federal APEX Accelerator program (see **Background**, below).

MCL 125.1972

BACKGROUND:

Congress established the Procurement Technical Assistance Program in 1985 to support businesses in the defense contracting industry.² The program recently transitioned from the Defense Logistics Agency to the Department of Defense Office of Small Business Programs and was renamed the APEX Accelerators program, beginning with the 2023 fiscal year.

There are currently ten APEX Accelerators located in Michigan, which facilitate participation in federal, state, and local defense contracts.³

BRIEF DISCUSSION:

According to House committee testimony, Senate Bill 481 makes a technical change to align Michigan statute with the federal APEX Accelerator program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 481 would not have a fiscal impact on any units of state or local government.

¹ The center was renamed as the Office of Defense and Aerospace Innovation in April 2024. See: <https://www.michiganbusiness.org/press-releases/2024/04/office-of-defense-and-aerospace-innovation/>.

² <https://www.apexaccelerators.us/#/about-us>.

³ <https://www.miapex.org/offices/>.

POSITIONS:

Representatives of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation testified in support of the bill. (6-11-24)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.