M3D

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Dear Members of the Michigan House of Representatives,

My name is Michael Hopkins, and I'm the founder and CEO of M3D, a medical imaging startup based in Ann Arbor and a client of Ann Arbor SPARK. I'm writing to express my support for Michigan House Bill 5031 and to encourage you to move this legislation forward.

Building a technology company in Michigan requires more than a good idea. It requires access to mentorship, early-stage capital, and a strong support network. Through Ann Arbor SPARK, we've received guidance, grant support, and introductions that have materially helped us grow. For companies like ours, these programs aren't theoretical — they directly impact our ability to hire, raise capital, and keep our company rooted in Michigan.

HB 5031 represents a practical investment in Michigan's innovation economy. Early-stage companies face significant risk as we move from R&D to commercialization. State-backed entrepreneurial support helps bridge that gap, making it easier to attract private capital and scale here rather than looking elsewhere.

From a founder's perspective, continued investment in this ecosystem:

- Helps startups attract and retain high-quality talent.
- Reduces early-stage risk and unlocks private investment.
- Encourages companies to build and scale in Michigan.
- Drives job creation and long-term economic growth.

Michigan has made real progress in strengthening its startup ecosystem, particularly in Ann Arbor. Legislation like HB 5031 ensures that momentum continues.

On behalf of our team at M3D, I respectfully ask for your support of HB 5031 and your continued commitment to Michigan entrepreneurs. Investments in innovation pay long-term dividends for our state.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,
Michael Hopkins
Founder & CEO, M3D

