Summary:

House Bill 6025 would create a new act, the Coronavirus Responsibility Reimbursement Act, to seek reimbursement from the People’s Republic of China for the damages, costs, expenses, and other losses incurred by Michigan as a result of the coronavirus.

Coronavirus would mean the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19, commonly referred to as the novel coronavirus.

The bill would require the state treasurer to determine the amount of damages, costs, expenses, and other losses that Michigan has incurred as a result of the coronavirus, including the following:

- The agencies, departments, commissions, courts, boards, councils, and statutorily created task forces of the state.
- The public universities and colleges of the state.
- The cities, villages, townships, counties, county road commissions, school districts, community college districts, and other districts and authorities authorized by law and the agencies, departments, boards, and councils of those entities.

The state treasurer would have to send an itemized statement of the damages, costs, expenses, and other losses determined above to the People’s Republic of China with a formal demand that the People’s Republic of China reimburse the state for the damages, costs, expenses, and other losses incurred.

The treasurer would have to deposit any proceeds received under the act into the general fund.

Fiscal Impact:

The provisions of the bill would increase administrative costs for the Department of Treasury by an unknown amount. The magnitude of the administrative costs would be directly related to the complexity of the department’s work in meeting its obligations under the bill.

Because an estimate of damages, costs, expenses, and other losses is unavailable and a response from the People’s Republic of China is unknown, an estimate of proceeds that could be received under the bill cannot be provided with any accuracy.