

ASSEMBLY, No. 4915

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 5, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman SEAN T. KEAN

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Danielsen, Assemblywomen N.Munoz, Jaffer and Jasey

SYNOPSIS

Makes supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 to DOH for Huntington's Disease Grant Program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2023)

1 A SUPPLEMENT to the annual appropriations act for the fiscal year
2 ending June 30, 2023, P.L.2022, c.49.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and the General Assembly of the
5 State of New Jersey:

6
7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2022,
8 c.49, the annual appropriations act for the fiscal year ending June
9 30, 2023, there is appropriated from the General Fund the following
10 amount for the purpose specified:

11
12 **46 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

13 *20 Physical and Mental Health*

14 *21 Health Services*

15 *4285 Division of Community Health*

16
17 **GRANTS-IN-AID**

18 05-4285 Community Health Services \$500,000
19 Total Grants-in-Aid appropriation,
20 Health Services \$500,000

21 ***Grants-in-Aid:***

22 05 Huntington's Disease Grant Program.... (\$500,000)
23

24 The amount hereinabove appropriated for the Huntington Disease
25 Grant Program, in addition to any other State or federal funds
26 allocated for the following purposes, shall be allocated to support
27 grants to institutions of higher education, non-profit
28 organizations, or New Jersey based and operated research
29 organizations for the provision of pre-symptomatic testing,
30 neurology and psychiatry services, neurophysiological
31 evaluations, treatment, disease management, and counseling for
32 people living with or at risk for Huntington's Disease.

33
34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
35
36

37 **STATEMENT**

38
39 This bill makes a supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 to
40 Division of Community Health in the Department of Health (DOH)
41 for the Huntington's Disease Grant Program. The amount
42 appropriated under the bill, in addition to any other State or federal
43 funds allocated for the same purposes, is to be allocated to support
44 grants to institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations,
45 or New Jersey based and operated research organizations for the
46 provision of pre-symptomatic testing, neurology and psychiatry
47 services, neurophysiological evaluations, treatment, disease
48 management, and counseling for people living with or at risk for

1 Huntington's disease. According to the department's Notice of
2 Fund Availability, the Huntington's Disease Grant Program is
3 currently estimated to distribute \$200,437 in FY 2023. This
4 supplemental appropriation would increase that amount to
5 \$700,437.

6 Huntington's disease is a fatal rare, inherited disease that causes
7 the progressive breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. It
8 deteriorates a person's physical and mental abilities during their
9 prime working years and has no cure. Huntington's disease has a
10 wide impact on a person's functional abilities and usually results in
11 movement, cognitive, and psychiatric disorders. Many describe the
12 symptoms as having amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's
13 disease), Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease
14 simultaneously. According to the DOH, there are approximately
15 900 to 1,200 New Jersey residents who are living with Huntington's
16 disease. The incidence of the disease is estimated between 1 in
17 8,000 and 1 in 10,000 State residents. There are also about 7,000
18 at-risk individuals in New Jersey. But since this is a fatal disease,
19 this number may be low since the majority of people who go
20 through genetic counseling decide to not get tested.