

SENATE, No. 3952

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 12, 2023

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)

SYNOPSIS

Requires EDA to establish program providing grants to certain chambers of commerce; appropriates \$1.5 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning the provision of grant funding to certain
2 chambers of commerce, supplementing Title 34 of the Revised
3 Statutes, and making an appropriation.

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

7
8 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
9 Legislature as this bill):

10 “Authority” means the New Jersey Economic Development
11 Authority established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1974, c.80
12 (C.34:1B-4).

13 “Business community” means the businesses operating primarily
14 within the geographic region served by a qualified chamber of
15 commerce.

16 “Fund” means the “New Jersey Business Recovery Fund,”
17 established pursuant to section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
18 before the Legislature as this bill).

19 “Program” means the “New Jersey Business Recovery Grant
20 Program,” established pursuant to section 2 of P.L. ,
21 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

22 “Programming” means the planning and execution of community
23 or public events, held by a qualified chamber of commerce to
24 further the interests of its business community.

25 “Qualified chamber of commerce” means an association,
26 operating exclusively on behalf of a business community within this
27 State, which promotes and protects the interests of a business
28 community in a geographic region larger than a singular
29 municipality.

30 “Regular operations” means the routine activities of a qualified
31 chamber of commerce related to its day-to-day administration or
32 service to its business community.

33
34 2. a. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority shall,
35 subject to appropriation, establish and maintain a “New Jersey
36 Business Recovery Grant Program,” for the purpose of awarding
37 grants, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, to qualified chambers
38 of commerce for programming and regular operations.

39 b. In administering the program and the fund established
40 pursuant to section 3 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
41 Legislature as this bill), the authority shall establish:

42 (1) program procedures and timelines for applications, review
43 and approval thereof, and disbursement of grant funding from the
44 fund to a qualified chamber of commerce;

45 (2) reporting requirements for a qualified chamber of commerce
46 that has received grant funding through the program; and

47 (3) any other policies deemed necessary by the authority for the
48 administration of the program and the fund.

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1 and establishes the “New Jersey Business Recovery Fund” (fund) to
2 provide grant funding for the program, alongside any other funds
3 which may be appropriated or available to the authority for this
4 purpose. The bill appropriates \$1.5 million from the General Fund
5 to the authority for the program.

6 To qualify for grant funding under the bill, a chamber of
7 commerce is required to serve a business community in this State,
8 in an area larger than a singular municipality. Such a grant may not
9 exceed \$25,000.

10 The authority is required to establish application criteria and
11 procedures; reporting requirements for a qualified chamber of
12 commerce; and any other policy necessary to implement the
13 program and fund.