

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3584**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**221st LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 2024

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman WILLIAM B. SAMPSON, IV**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Assemblyman STERLEY S. STANLEY**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman JAMES J. KENNEDY**

**District 22 (Somerset and Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywomen Dunn, Matsikoudis, Reynolds-Jackson, Haider,  
Assemblymen Rodriguez, Calabrese, Assemblywomen Lopez, Morales and  
Ramirez**

**SYNOPSIS**

Appropriates \$70 million in federal funds to EDA to support arts and culture organizations negatively impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/3/2024)**

1 AN ACT appropriating federal funds to the New Jersey Economic  
2 Development Authority to support arts and culture organizations  
3 impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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8 1. a. Subject to the availability of federal funds allocated to the  
9 State from the federal “Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund,”  
10 established pursuant to the federal “American Rescue Plan Act of  
11 2021,” Pub.L. 117-2, \$70 million from such federal funds shall be  
12 appropriated to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority  
13 for the purpose of awarding grants to qualifying arts and culture  
14 organizations, as set forth in this section.

15 b. (1) Of the federal funds appropriated pursuant to subsection  
16 a. of this section, the authority, in consultation with the council,  
17 shall award \$50 million in grants to support the financial recovery,  
18 resiliency, and growth of qualifying arts and culture organizations.  
19 Of this total, \$10 million in grants shall be dedicated to arts  
20 education organizations that provide programs and services for  
21 school districts, charter schools, or organizations offering  
22 afterschool programs, free of charge, for participating students.

23 (2) The grants awarded under this subsection may be used to  
24 offset any revenue losses that occurred as a direct result of the  
25 COVID-19 pandemic or provide the cash reserves necessary to  
26 ensure continued operations in the event of future pandemic-related  
27 shutdowns.

28 c. Of the federal funds appropriated pursuant to subsection a.  
29 of this section, the authority, in consultation with the council, shall  
30 award \$20 million in grants to qualifying arts and culture  
31 organizations to support the completion of placemaking projects.

32 d. Any arts or culture organization that seeks a grant pursuant  
33 to this section shall submit an application to the authority in a form  
34 and manner prescribed by the authority. The authority shall  
35 approve the applications on a rolling basis, subject to the  
36 availability of funds.

37 e. The authority may adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to  
38 the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et  
39 seq.), to effectuate the provisions of this section.

40 f. As used in this section:

41 “Authority” means the New Jersey Economic Development  
42 Authority, established by section 4 of P.L.1974, c.80 (C.34:1B-4).

43 “Council” means the New Jersey State Council on the Arts,  
44 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1966, c.214 (C.52:16A-25).

45 “Placemaking project” means any creative or artistic project  
46 intended to beautify or enrich public spaces, including, but not  
47 limited to, artistic paintings on roadways or sidewalks, landscape

1 plantings in public areas, educational signage, and other artistic,  
2 cultural, or educational installations.

3 “Qualifying arts and culture organization” means any arts and  
4 culture organization, including for-profit businesses and non-profit  
5 organizations, that was negatively impacted by the COVID-19  
6 pandemic.

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8 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### STATEMENT

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13 This bill appropriates \$70 million in federal funds to the New  
14 Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) to support arts and  
15 culture organizations, including for-profit businesses and non-profit  
16 organizations, that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19  
17 pandemic.

18 Under the bill, the EDA, in consultation with the New Jersey  
19 State Council on the Arts (council), would be required to award \$50  
20 million in grants to support the financial recovery, resiliency, and  
21 growth of qualifying arts and culture organizations. However, of  
22 this total, \$10 million in grants would be dedicated to arts education  
23 organizations that provide programs and services for public schools  
24 or afterschool programs. Specifically, these grants may be used to  
25 offset any revenue losses that occurred as a direct result of the  
26 COVID-19 pandemic or provide the cash reserves necessary to  
27 ensure continued operations in the event of future pandemic-related  
28 shutdowns.

29 Additionally, the bill requires the EDA, in consultation with the  
30 council, to award \$20 million in grants to qualifying arts and culture  
31 organizations to support the completion of placemaking projects in  
32 public spaces. Under the bill, placemaking projects would include  
33 any creative or artistic project intended to beautify or enrich public  
34 spaces, such as artistic paintings on roadways or sidewalks,  
35 landscape plantings in public areas, educational signage, and other  
36 artistic, cultural, or educational installations.

37 The monies appropriated under the bill would be provided from  
38 the State’s allocation of funds from the federal “Coronavirus State  
39 Fiscal Recovery Fund,” established pursuant to the federal  
40 “American Rescue Plan Act of 2021,” Pub.L. 117-2.