



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5431

February Session, 2022



AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING RECEIVED BY THE STATE UNDER THE FEDERAL AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 36 of public act 21-2 of the June special session is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) As used in this section:

5 (1) "Community action agency" means a public or private nonprofit
6 agency which has previously been designated by and authorized to
7 accept funds from the federal Community Services Administration for
8 community action agencies under the Economic Opportunity Act of
9 1964, or a successor agency established pursuant to section 17b-892 of
10 the general statutes;

11 (2) "Community health worker" means a public health outreach
12 professional with an in-depth understanding of the experience,
13 language, culture and socioeconomic needs of the community and who
14 provides a range of services, including, but not limited to, outreach,
15 engagement, education, coaching, informal counseling, social support,
16 advocacy, care coordination, research related to social determinants of
17 health and basic screenings and assessments of any risks associated with

18 social determinants of health; and

19 (3) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the
20 World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019,
21 and any related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a
22 communicable respiratory disease.

23 (b) The Department of [Public Health] Social Services shall establish
24 a community health worker grant program. The purpose of such
25 program shall be to provide grants to community action agencies that
26 employ community health workers who provide a range of services to
27 persons adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The department
28 may enter into an agreement, pursuant to chapter 55a of the general
29 statutes, with a person, firm, corporation or other entity to operate such
30 program.

31 (c) The Department of [Public Health] Social Services shall publish on
32 its Internet web site a notice of grant availability for the period
33 beginning on [the effective date of this section] June 23, 2021, and ending
34 on June 30, [2023] 2024.

35 (d) Each community action agency applying for a grant under this
36 section shall submit an application in such form and manner as
37 prescribed by the Commissioner of [Public Health] Social Services. Each
38 application shall include the following information: (1) The location of
39 the principal place of business of the applicant; (2) the number of
40 community health workers employed by the applicant [or that] and the
41 number of community health workers the applicant seeks to employ
42 under the grant and the range of services provided or to be provided by
43 such community health workers; (3) an explanation of the intended use
44 of the grant being applied for; (4) strategies for integrating community
45 health workers into an individual's care delivery team, including, but
46 not limited to, the capacity to address health care and social services
47 needs; and [(4)] (5) such other information that the commissioner deems
48 necessary.

49 (e) The Department of [Public Health] Social Services shall review all
50 grant applications received under the program and determine which
51 applications are eligible for funding. Criteria for such determinations
52 shall be established by the department and included in the notice of
53 grant availability described in subsection (c) of this section.

54 (f) The amount of any grant issued to a community action agency
55 pursuant to this section shall not exceed [~~thirty~~] forty thousand dollars
56 annually per community health worker employed by, or planned to be
57 employed by, such agency and the total amount of grants issued to
58 community action agencies in the aggregate shall not exceed [~~six~~] eight
59 million dollars. No grant shall be issued pursuant to this section after
60 June 30, [2023] 2024.

61 [(g) (1) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Public
62 Health shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
63 of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General
64 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public health and
65 human services regarding the progress of the program and including
66 any requisite legislative proposals to accomplish the goals of the
67 program.]

68 [(2)] (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the Commissioner of [Public
69 Health] Social Services shall report, in accordance with the provisions of
70 section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the community health worker
71 grant program to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly
72 having cognizance of matters relating to public health and human
73 services. Such report shall include the following data regarding the
74 program: [(A)] (1) The number of grants provided and the amount of
75 such grants; [(B)] (2) the identities of the community action agencies that
76 received such grants; [(C)] (3) the intended use of each grant provided,
77 as described by the community action agency pursuant to subdivision
78 (3) of subsection (d) of this section; [(D)] (4) the number of community
79 health workers employed by each community action agency that
80 received a grant at the time such agency received such grant and
81 information regarding the services provided by such community health

82 workers; and [(E)] (5) the number of community health workers
83 employed by each community action agency that received a grant at the
84 conclusion of the program and information regarding the services
85 provided by such community health workers.

86 Sec. 2. Section 37 of public act 21-2 of the June special session is
87 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
88 *passage*):

89 The sum of \$3,000,000 allocated in section 41 of special act 21-15, [and]
90 as amended by section 306 of [this act] public act 21-2 of the June special
91 session, to the Department of Public Health, for Community Health
92 Workers, for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30,
93 2023, shall be for the purposes of the program established pursuant to
94 section 36 of [this act] public act 21-2 of the June special session, as
95 amended by this act. The Department of Public Health shall transfer
96 such funds to the Department of Social Services.

97 Sec. 3. Section 1 of special act 21-1, as amended by section 86 of public
98 act 21-2 of the June special session, is amended to read as follows
99 (*Effective from passage*):

100 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, not later
101 than [April 26, 2021] June 1, 2022, the Governor shall submit to the
102 speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro tempore
103 of the Senate recommended allocations of federal funds designated for
104 the state pursuant to the provisions of Subtitle M of Title IX of the
105 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2, as amended from time to
106 time, except for any funds designated under the Coronavirus Local
107 Fiscal Recovery Fund. Not later than five days after receipt of the
108 recommended allocations, the speaker and the president pro tempore
109 shall submit the recommended allocations to the joint standing
110 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
111 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. Said
112 committee shall report their approval or modifications, if any, of such
113 recommended allocations to the speaker and the president pro tempore

114 not later than [May 16, 2021] July 1, 2022. Any partial or final allocations
115 of such funds shall be authorized by public or special act of the General
116 Assembly. Disbursement of such funds shall be in accordance with such
117 partial or final allocations and no disbursement of such funds shall
118 occur prior to such authorization.

119 (b) If it is determined that any amount allocated by the General
120 Assembly pursuant to subsection (a) of this section is not allowable
121 under guidance provided by the federal government, including, but not
122 limited to, the United States Treasury, the Secretary of the Office of
123 Policy and Management shall immediately notify the joint standing
124 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
125 relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies of the
126 specific amount and recipient of such allocation and the reason for such
127 determination.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 21-2 of the June Sp. Sess., Sec. 36
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	PA 21-2 of the June Sp. Sess., Sec. 37
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	SA 21-1, Sec. 1

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*