



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

***Raised Bill No. 5493***

LCO No. 2579



Referred to Committee on FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING

Introduced by:  
(FIN)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A YOUTH SPORTS GRANT PROGRAM.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section, (1)  
2 "eligible organization" means a nonprofit youth sports organization that  
3 provides sports programs and sports activities primarily for children  
4 and young adults under eighteen years of age residing in such  
5 distressed municipality, and (2) "distressed municipality" has the same  
6 meaning as provided in section 32-9p of the general statutes.

7 (b) (1) There is established a youth sports grant program to provide  
8 grants to distressed municipalities for the support of eligible  
9 organizations in such municipalities. Such grants shall be disbursed by  
10 the distressed municipality to be used by eligible organizations for the  
11 expenses of operating sports programs and sports activities in such  
12 municipality, including, but not limited to, personnel, equipment,  
13 insurance, permits, training and facility fees, renovation of sports  
14 facilities and refurbishment of playing fields and to help defray or  
15 eliminate participant registration fees.

16 (2) Priority for grants under the program shall be given to sports  
17 programs and sports activities that (A) provide adaptive sports for  
18 children and young adults with disabilities, or (B) seek to foster  
19 improved outcomes in (i) mental health through social and emotional  
20 skills development, (ii) educational achievements through increased  
21 attendance and attainment, or (iii) community cohesion by  
22 strengthening cooperation, teamwork and leadership.

23 (3) Commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and  
24 annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
25 Management shall notify the chief elected official of each distressed  
26 municipality of the application period for grants under the program to  
27 be awarded in such fiscal year. Any such official may apply to the  
28 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for a grant, provided  
29 a new application shall be required each year such official wishes to  
30 apply. The application shall be in such form and manner as prescribed  
31 by the secretary and shall include information sufficient to allow the  
32 secretary to consider the priority criteria set forth in subdivision (2) of  
33 this subsection.

34 (4) Each distressed municipality that is awarded a grant under this  
35 section shall, at the close of the fiscal year during which such grant was  
36 awarded, submit to the secretary a summary of each eligible  
37 organization to which program funds were disbursed and a description  
38 of the sports program or sports activity and related expenses for which  
39 such funds were used.

40 (c) Not later than January 1, 2028, and biennially thereafter, the  
41 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management shall submit a report,  
42 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
43 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
44 cognizance of matters relating to children, education and finance,  
45 revenue and bonding, on the youth sports grant program for the  
46 preceding two fiscal years. The report shall include, but need not be  
47 limited to, for each fiscal year, (1) the amounts deposited in the youth  
48 sports grant account pursuant to subsection (a) of section 12-867 of the

49 general statutes, as amended by this act, (2) the municipalities that  
50 applied for a grant, the municipalities that were awarded a grant and  
51 the total amount of grants awarded, and (3) the summaries provided to  
52 the secretary under subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section.

53 (d) There is established an account to be known as the "youth sports  
54 grant account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account within the  
55 General Fund. The account shall contain any moneys required by law to  
56 be deposited in the account and may accept gifts, grants and donations  
57 from public or private sources. Moneys in the account shall be expended  
58 by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management for the  
59 purposes of providing grants to distressed municipalities in accordance  
60 with the provisions of this section.

61 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 12-867 of the general statutes is  
62 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*  
63 *2024*):

64 (a) (1) A master wagering licensee, if licensed to operate online sports  
65 wagering or retail sports wagering pursuant to section 12-852 or 12-853,  
66 shall pay to the state for deposit in the General Fund: Thirteen and three-  
67 quarters per cent of the gross gaming revenue from online or retail  
68 sports wagering authorized under section 12-852 or 12-853, as  
69 applicable. Each such licensee shall commence payments under this  
70 subsection not later than the fifteenth day of the month following the  
71 month that the operation of online or retail sports wagering commences  
72 under section 12-852 or 12-853, as applicable, and shall make payments  
73 not later than the fifteenth day of each succeeding month, while such  
74 retail or online sports wagering is conducted.

75 (2) For calendar months commencing on or after July 1, 2024, the  
76 commissioner shall deposit into the youth sports grant account  
77 established pursuant to section 1 of this act two per cent of the amounts  
78 received by the state under this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2024</i>	12-867(a)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To establish a youth sports grant program and dedicate a portion of the revenue generated from online or retail sports wagering to the program.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*