



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5493

February Session, 2024



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, 2025*) (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 a distressed
5 municipality, and (2) "distressed municipality" has the same meaning as
6 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 a 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, 2027, 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, 2029, 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 October*
63 *1, 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, 2025, 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	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2024	12-867(a)

FIN Joint Favorable Subst.