

ASSEMBLY, No. 4253

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 20, 2016

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman TIM EUSTACE

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot Program.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/20/2017)

1 AN ACT establishing a "Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot Program."
2

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

6 1. The Legislature finds and declares:

7 a. In these volatile times, the need to remain vigilant
8 concerning domestic security and state and local preparedness has
9 remained of imminent importance;

10 b. Certain nonprofit organizations are at high risk for threats,
11 attacks, and other violent acts, and would benefit from engaging in
12 target hardening activities to reduce vulnerability;

13 c. Federal grant money distributed through the United States
14 Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant
15 Program provides these organizations with funds for certain target
16 hardening activities, but does not allow recipients to use the funds
17 for the expansion of existing security personnel or the hiring of
18 temporary security personnel;

19 d. With the threat potential increasing during specific times of
20 year or when high profile events are occurring, certain nonprofit
21 organizations would benefit from additional funding to ensure
22 security personnel is adequate to meet increased need;

23 e. Because threats, attacks, and other violent acts are not limited
24 to public sector entities, it is appropriate for the State to assist
25 certain targeted nonprofit organizations of the private sector to
26 ensure their readiness and the safety of their surrounding
27 communities; and

28 f. Accordingly, it is within the public interest to establish a
29 three-year "Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot Program" in the Office
30 of Homeland Security and Preparedness which shall provide grants
31 to eligible nonprofit organizations to hire permanent or temporary
32 security personnel for the purpose of preparedness and reduction of
33 vulnerability.
34

35 2. As used in this act:

36 "Director" means the director of the Office of Homeland
37 Security and Preparedness.

38 "Eligible nonprofit organization" means a nonprofit organization
39 located in New Jersey which has been deemed eligible to receive or
40 has received federal grant funds from the Department of Homeland
41 Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program offered in any fiscal
42 year.
43

44 3. a. There is hereby established a three-year Nonprofit
45 Security Grant Pilot Program in the Office of Homeland Security
46 and Preparedness which shall provide grants to eligible nonprofit
47 organizations to hire permanent or temporary security personnel for

1 the purpose of preparedness against threats, attacks, and other
2 violent acts.

3 b. The director shall administer the pilot program for three
4 years following the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
5 before the Legislature as this bill). There shall annually be
6 appropriated from the General Fund to the office \$500,000 in each
7 of the three years of the program to be distributed to approved
8 eligible nonprofit organizations, up to a maximum grant of \$10,000
9 per approved application.

10 c. An eligible nonprofit organization shall apply to the Office
11 of Homeland Security and Preparedness to receive a grant under the
12 pilot program. Applicants may apply annually for a disbursement of
13 funds in each of the three years of the pilot program.

14 d. Within three years following the effective date of P.L. ,
15 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the director
16 shall submit a report to the Governor, and to the Legislature as
17 provided under section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1),
18 containing an evaluation of the pilot program. The report shall
19 provide the director's opinion as to whether the pilot program
20 should be continued and, if so, recommendations for further
21 improvement, modifications, and implementation.

22
23 4. This act shall take effect immediately.
24
25

26 STATEMENT 27

28 This bill establishes a three-year "Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot
29 Program" in the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness to
30 provide grants to eligible nonprofit organizations for the purpose of
31 hiring permanent or temporary security personnel in order reduce
32 vulnerability to threats, attacks, and other violent acts.

33 The United States Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit
34 Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides support for target
35 hardening and other physical security enhancements to eligible
36 nonprofit organizations that are determined to be high risk.
37 However, the NSGP specifically provides that the funding may not
38 be used to expand existing security personnel or to hire temporary
39 security personnel during times of heightened risk.

40 The pilot program established by this bill would operate in
41 tandem with the NSGP to provide grant funding to NSGP eligible
42 nonprofit organizations for the purpose of hiring permanent or
43 temporary security personnel. The maximum grant award per
44 application would be limited to \$10,000. Applicants would be
45 permitted to apply in each of the three years of the pilot program.

46 The bill makes an appropriation from the General Fund of
47 \$500,000 in each year of the pilot program. Under the bill's
48 provisions, the director is required to submit a report to the

A4253 QUIJANO, MUKHERJI

4

1 Governor and Legislature containing an evaluation of the pilot
2 program, prior to its expiration. The report is to provide the
3 director's opinion as to whether the pilot program should be
4 continued and, if so, recommendations for further improvement,
5 modifications, and implementation.