

Approp.

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 116, *approved June 22, 2021*
Assembly, No. 5709

1 **A SUPPLEMENT** to the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2020, c.97.

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

6
7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2020, c.97,
8 the annual appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2021, there is
9 appropriated the following sum for the purpose specified:
10

82 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security
51 Economic Planning and Development

GRANTS-IN-AID

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------|
| 38-2043 | Economic Development | \$10,000,000 |
| | Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Economic Planning and Development | <u>\$10,000,000</u> |

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Sustain and Serve NJ Program,
 EDA..... (\$10,000,000)

11
12 The amount hereinabove appropriated for the Sustain and Serve NJ
13 Program, EDA, shall be allocated to the New Jersey Economic
14 Development Authority to support the Sustain and Serve NJ
15 Program. The authority may transfer the uncommitted balance
16 of any funds hereinabove appropriated for the Sustain and Serve
17 NJ Program, EDA, for the purposes of any program established
18 pursuant to P.L.2021, c.42, P.L.2021, c.43, P.L.2021, c.45,
19 P.L.2020, c.46, or P.L.2021, c.47, as well as the Startup Business
20 and Nonprofit Assistance Program, established pursuant to
21 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as Assembly Bill
22 No. 5708 of 2021 and Senate Bill No. 3795 of 2021); provided,
23 however, that the authority shall submit notice to the Joint
24 Budget Oversight Committee no less than five calendar days
25 before the date of the transfer. At a minimum, the notice shall
26 indicate the amount of and purpose for the transferred funds.

27
28 The amount hereinabove appropriated for the Sustain and Serve NJ
29 Program, EDA, is conditioned upon the submission of a report
30 by the Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic
31 Development Authority to the Governor and the Legislature,
32 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), detailing
33 the expenditure of program funds. At a minimum, the report

1 shall indicate the number of organizations that applied for
2 financial assistance; the number of organizations that received
3 financial assistance; the amount of financial assistance provided
4 to each recipient; and a brief description of each recipient.

5
6 Of the amounts appropriated to the New Jersey Economic
7 Development Authority for Assistance to Food and Beverage
8 Establishments, Assistance to Businesses and Nonprofits,
9 Assistance to Child Care Providers, Assistance to
10 Microbusinesses, the Sustain and Serve NJ Program, and the
11 Startup Business and Nonprofit Assistance Program, the
12 authority may retain not more than \$1,000,000 to defray
13 administrative expenses.

14
15 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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18 STATEMENT

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20 This bill appropriates \$10 million from the General Fund to the
21 New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) to support the
22 Sustain and Serve NJ Program.

23 In November 2020, the EDA established the Sustain and Serve
24 NJ Program. Under the program, the EDA provides grants to
25 organizations to support the bulk purchase of meals from local
26 restaurants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Participating
27 organizations are then required to distribute the meals, free of
28 charge, to State residents. As such, the program is designed to
29 support local restaurants, while also providing free meals for the
30 public.

31 In February 2021, the EDA announced that \$14 million in grants
32 were expected to be awarded through the Sustain and Serve NJ
33 Program. According to the EDA, this funding is expected to result
34 in the purchase of approximately 1.5 million meals. By
35 appropriating an additional \$10 million for the program, roughly
36 one million more meals will be purchased from local restaurants
37 and distributed to needy populations.

38 Additionally, the bill allows the EDA to transfer uncommitted
39 funds to other programs administered by the authority to address the
40 impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill also allows a portion
41 of these funds to be used for administrative expenses.

42 As a condition of receiving State funds, the bill also requires the
43 EDA to submit a report to the Governor and the Legislature
44 detailing the expenditure of program funds. At a minimum, the
45 report would be required to indicate the number of organizations
46 that applied for financial assistance; the number of organizations
47 that received financial assistance; the amount of financial assistance
48 provided to each recipient; and a brief description of each recipient.

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2
3 Appropriates \$10 million from General Fund to EDA to support
4 Sustain and Serve NJ Program.