

SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3600

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 2, 2023

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3600.

This bill establishes the Code Blue Shelter Matching Grant Program in the Department of Community Affairs (department) to provide matching grants to community-based nonprofit organizations (nonprofit organizations) that provide shelter services during Code Blue alerts.

Under the bill, to be eligible for a matching grant award a nonprofit organization is required to submit an application to the Commissioner of Community Affairs (commissioner), in accordance with application procedures and requirements prescribed by the commissioner.

The bill requires that a grant application is to relate to an underlying grant from a county or municipality received by the nonprofit organization not more than 12 months prior to the date of application, and is to include information determined necessary by the commissioner, which includes certain information enumerated in the bill.

The bill provides that the department is required to award matching grants based on review and analytical criteria adopted by the department and in the order in which applications are received. The bill requires the department to maintain a record of underlying grants provided by each county and municipality, and is prohibited from providing a matching grant for an application if an award of the amount requested would result in the department awarding matching grants in an amount exceeding a certain amount. The bill also authorizes the department to require a nonprofit organization to verify award or receipt of an underlying grant from a county or municipality of a certain amount and prohibits the department from establishing a cap on the total number of matching grants or the total amount that any individual nonprofit organization may receive from the department.

Under the bill, the commissioner is required to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature on the effectiveness of the matching grant program and any recommendations concerning continuing or expanding the matching grant program.