

SENATE, No. 1644

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Senator DAWN MARIE ADDIEGO

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes teacher recruitment grant program in DOE; appropriates \$6 million to DOE.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing a competitive grant program for teacher
2 recruitment organizations, supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A
3 of the New Jersey Statutes, and making an appropriation.
4

5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education shall establish a
9 competitive grant program to provide funding, over a period of
10 three school years, to an eligible organization that recruits, trains,
11 and places new teachers in one or more high poverty school districts
12 in the State. To be eligible to receive a grant under this program, an
13 organization shall:

14 (1) qualify as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to paragraph
15 (3) of subsection (c) of section 501 of the federal Internal Revenue
16 Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.501);

17 (2) place newly-trained teachers in high poverty school districts;
18 and

19 (3) have a previously existing partnership with at least one high
20 poverty school district in the State, as defined by the school district.

21 In awarding a grant to an organization, the commissioner shall
22 consider factors including, but not limited to, the merits of the
23 program proposed by the organization, the potential to improve
24 student outcomes, and the potential for the program to be
25 implemented successfully.

26 b. The commissioner shall award a grant to the selected
27 organization in an amount equal to any private contributions raised
28 by the organization for the purpose of recruiting, training, and
29 placing new teachers in one or more high poverty school districts in
30 the State, not to exceed \$2,000,000 per year, in each of three
31 consecutive school years. The first grant shall be provided no later
32 than May 1, 2019.

33 c. As used in this section, "high poverty school district," means
34 a school district in which the percent of students who are at-risk
35 pupils, as defined pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2007, c.260
36 (C.18A:7F-45), is equal to or greater than 40%.
37

38 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the
39 Department of Education the sum of \$6,000,000 to effectuate the
40 provisions of this act. The appropriation shall be deposited into a
41 non-lapsing fund.
42

43 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

3 This bill establishes a competitive grant program in the
4 Department of Education to provide funding to an organization that
5 recruits, trains, and places new teachers in high poverty school
6 districts. The selected organization would receive a grant equal to
7 the amount of private contributions that the organization receives,
8 not to exceed \$2 million each year, for three years. For the
9 purposes of the grant program, a high poverty school district is one
10 in which at least 40 percent of the students qualify for free or
11 reduced-price school meals.