

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 1842

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

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Sponsored by:

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District 20 (Union)

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Senators T.Kean, Lagana, Weinberg, O'Scanlon, Greenstein and Singleton

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant Program.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on November 15, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/16/2021)

1 AN ACT establishing the “New Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant
2 Program” and supplementing chapter 9 of Appendix A.

3

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

6

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares:

8 a. The three year "New Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant Pilot
9 Program" established under P.L.2017, c.246 in the Office of Homeland
10 Security and Preparedness (OHSP) ¹~~["shall expire"]~~ expired¹ on
11 January 10, 2020;

12 b. In these volatile times, the need to remain vigilant concerning
13 domestic security and State and local preparedness remains of
14 imminent importance;

15 c. Certain nonprofit organizations continue to be at high risk for
16 threats, attacks, and other violent acts, and would continue to benefit
17 from engaging in target hardening activities to reduce vulnerability;

18 d. Federal grant money distributed through the United States
19 Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant
20 Program provides these organizations with a competitive process to
21 secure funds for certain target hardening activities, the expansion of
22 existing security personnel, or the hiring of temporary security
23 personnel, but such federal funds ¹~~["to New Jersey institutions are
24 limited based on national competition"]~~ are appropriated annually and
25 are discretionary¹;

26 e. With the threat potential increasing during specific times of
27 year or when high profile events are occurring, certain nonprofit
28 organizations would benefit from additional funding to ensure security
29 personnel is adequate to meet the increased need;

30 f. Because threats, attacks, and other violent acts are not limited
31 to public sector entities, it is appropriate for the State to assist certain
32 targeted nonprofit organizations in the private sector to ensure their
33 readiness and the safety of their surrounding communities; and

34 g. Accordingly, it is within the public interest to make the “New
35 Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant Program" in the Office of Homeland
36 Security and Preparedness permanent to continue to provide grants to
37 eligible nonprofit organizations ¹at greatest risk of attack¹ to hire
38 permanent or temporary security personnel and for acquisition of
39 target hardening equipment for the purpose of preparedness and
40 reduction of vulnerability.

41

42 2. As used in this act:

43 “Director” means the Director of the Office of Homeland
44 Security and Preparedness.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SLP committee amendments adopted November 15, 2021.

1 “Eligible nonprofit organization” means a nonprofit organization
2 located in New Jersey which is exempt from federal taxation
3 pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code
4 (26 U.S.C. s. 501 (c)(3)).

5
6 3. a. There is hereby established the “New Jersey Nonprofit
7 Security Grant Program” ¹(NJNSGP)¹ in the Office of Homeland
8 Security and Preparedness, which shall provide grants to eligible
9 nonprofit organizations ¹at greatest risk of attack¹ as annually
10 appropriated (1) to hire permanent or temporary security personnel
11 limited to federal, State, county, or municipal law enforcement
12 officers, special law enforcement officers appointed pursuant to
13 P.L.1985, c.439 (C.40A:14-146.8 et seq.), or security officers
14 registered pursuant to P.L.2004, c.134 (C.45:19A-1 et seq.), and (2)
15 for acquisition of target hardening equipment for the purpose of
16 preparedness against threats, attacks, and other violent acts.

17 b. The director shall administer the New Jersey Nonprofit
18 Security Grant Program. There shall annually be distributed to
19 approved eligible nonprofit organizations a maximum grant of up to
20 \$10,000 per approved application for personnel and a maximum grant
21 of up to \$50,000 for target hardening equipment. ¹The director may
22 adjust these amounts based upon the final availability of funds,
23 analytical trends, and emerging threats.¹

24 c. An eligible nonprofit organization shall apply to the Office of
25 Homeland Security and Preparedness to receive a grant under the
26 program, for either costs of security personnel or acquisition of target
27 hardening equipment, or both; however, an applicant only may be
28 awarded funds for either personnel or for equipment in a fiscal year.
29 The Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness first shall evaluate
30 all applications as to whether they are at high risk of terrorist attack,
31 threats, ¹domestic extremism,¹ and other violent acts. The costs of
32 hiring security personnel shall include the cost of hiring ¹security¹
33 personnel for an event ¹within the geographic boundaries of the State¹
34 primarily organized by the applicant away from the applicant’s
35 physical location ¹as recorded on the grant application¹ and for which
36 the applicant bears legal liability. The funds distributed under the
37 program shall be utilized solely for security investments made within
38 this State. No funds shall be utilized ¹for travel¹ to support security
39 needs while traveling¹ outside of this State.

40 Applicants may apply annually for a disbursement of funds for
41 costs of security personnel and may be awarded grants in successive
42 years. The Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness shall assign
43 a preference for applicants who have not received a federal security
44 grant that includes funding for hiring security personnel in the last two
45 federal grant cycles.

46 Applicants may apply annually for grant funds for acquisition of
47 target hardening equipment. The Office of Homeland Security and

1 Preparedness shall assign a preference for applicants who have not
2 received either a federal or State security grant for target hardening
3 equipment in the last two grant cycles.

4 d. The Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness shall
5 request annually as part of its annual budget proposal a minimum of
6 \$2,000,000 to fund the grants authorized pursuant to this section. The
7 office also shall pursue and develop, with the Department of Law and
8 Public Safety, the United States Department of Homeland Security,
9 and any other applicable State or federal agency, any available federal,
10 State, local, and private funding for the grants authorized pursuant to
11 this section.

12 e. Of the amount appropriated to the program, five percent shall
13 be allocated to the Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness to
14 be used to administer the program.

15

16 4. This act shall take effect immediately.