

SENATE, No. 2494

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 28, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Makes FY 2020 supplemental appropriation of \$1 million to DHS and DCF to support certain direct support wage increases during coronavirus 2020 public health crisis.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/28/2020)

9 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2019,
10 c.150, there is appropriated out of the General Fund the following
11 sum for the purposes specified:

54 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

30 Educational, Cultural, and Intellectual Development

32 Operation and Support of Educational Institutions

GRANTS-IN-AID

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01-7601 Community Programs	\$570,000
Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
Community Programs	\$570,000

Grants-in-Aid:

01 DSP COVID-19 Wage Increase for Community Care Residence	(\$570,000)
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16 DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security

55 Social Services Programs

GRANTS-IN-AID

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02-1620 Division of Children's System of Care	\$430,000
Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
Division of Children's System of Care	\$430,000

Grants-in-Aid:

02	DSP COVID-19 Wage Increase	(\$430,000)
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18 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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23 This bill makes a \$1 million FY 2020 supplemental appropriation
24 from the General Fund to the Department of Human Services (DHS)
25 and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to support certain
26 direct support professional (DSP) wage increases during the coronavirus
27 2019 public health crisis. Under this bill, it is anticipated that the State
28 will receive \$1.5 million in federal funds to match this supplemental

1 appropriation, for a total of \$2.5 million to increase DSP wage increases
2 during the coronavirus health crisis.

3 These funds will provide a wage increase to DSPs who support
4 adults placed in substitute family situations in community care
5 residences funded by the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
6 in the DHS and children placed in residential settings funded by the
7 Division of Children's System of Care in the DCF. Such DSPs are not
8 included in the DSP wage increase announced by the Governor on April
9 29, 2020, which only provides funds to DSPs who support adults who
10 are served in group homes funded by the DDD. Identical to the \$24
11 million of State and federal funding provided for the Governor's
12 initiative, the funds appropriated under this bill are intended to provide
13 a \$3 per hour wage increase to the identified DSPs for three months. It
14 is the sponsor's belief that all DSPs working on the front lines of the
15 COVID-19 pandemic deserve an increase in wages to care for one of
16 the State's most vulnerable populations.