

SENATE, No. 4259

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 9, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Makes supplemental appropriation of \$1 billion for After School Recreation in Urban Areas; stipulates uses of, and eligibility criteria for, funds.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A SUPPLEMENT** to the annual appropriations act for the fiscal year
2 ending June 30, 2022, P.L.2021, c.133.

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

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7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2021,
8 c.133, the annual appropriations act for the fiscal year ending June
9 30, 2022, there is appropriated from the General Fund the following
10 amount for the purpose specified:

11

34 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
30 Educational, Cultural, and Intellectual Development
34 Educational Support Services
GRANTS-IN-AID

40-5064	Student Services	<u>\$1,000,000,000</u>
	Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation, Educational Support Services	<u>\$1,000,000,000</u>

Grant-in-Aid:

40 Grants for After School Recreation in Urban
Areas..... (\$1,000,000,000)

12

13 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Grants for After School
14 Recreation in Urban Areas shall only be made available to
15 municipalities that are members of the New Jersey Urban
16 Mayors Association. Funds shall be allocated by the
17 Commissioner of Education pursuant to an application process to
18 be established by the commissioner for the following purposes:
19 improving, retrofitting, and rebuilding playgrounds, public
20 swimming pools, and other recreational infrastructure; reopening
21 parks that have not been in operation for a long period of time;
22 and establishing, enhancing, and procuring equipment and other
23 materials for mentorship programs, public and nonprofit youth
24 sports organizations and recreational programs, organized after
25 school and summer educational programs that shall include
26 computer science education, home economics education, and
27 education concerning other life-building skills.

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29 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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34 This bill provides a supplemental appropriation of \$1 billion to
35 provide Grants for After School Recreation in Urban Areas.

36 The bill provides that the grants will be allocated by the
37 Commissioner of Education for the following purposes: improving,
38 retrofitting, and rebuilding playgrounds, public swimming pools,

1 and other recreational infrastructure; reopening parks that have not
2 been in operation for a long period of time; and establishing,
3 enhancing, and procuring equipment and other materials for
4 mentorship programs, public and nonprofit youth sports
5 organizations and recreational programs, organized after school and
6 summer educational programs that include computer science
7 education, home economics education, and education concerning
8 other life-building skills.

9 Under the bill, grants would only be made available to
10 municipalities that are members of the New Jersey Urban Mayors
11 Association (NJUMA). The NJUMA is an association comprised of
12 urban and rural municipalities that is dedicated to working with
13 State and federal lawmakers and officials to develop appropriate
14 and effective public policy measures that benefit the State's urban
15 centers and to help lawmakers understand how public policy affects
16 New Jersey's cities and municipalities. Member municipalities of
17 the NJUMA display a disproportionate need for youth sports and
18 educational programs. This bill would provide these municipalities,
19 and the youth populations of the municipalities, with access to
20 funding to improve, create, and support youth programs and
21 facilities. Ensuring funding for the purposes described under the bill
22 would represent a meaningful investment in the educational and
23 social-emotional development of children in the eligible
24 municipalities and provide them with stimulating after school and
25 summer safe havens.