

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

"MOEN, VERRELLI AND REYNOLDS-JACKSON BILL ALLOWING COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS TO DETERMINE LOCATION OF CERTAIN BALLOT DROP BOXES NOW LAW." US Fed News (USA), April 9, 2021.

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 45, *approved April 9, 2021*
Assembly, No. 5444 (*Second Reprint*)

1 ¹**[A SUPPLEMENT** to the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2020, c.97] **AN ACT** making federal funding available to the
3 New Jersey Economic Development Authority to support food
4 and beverage establishments in need¹.
5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and the General Assembly of the
7 State of New Jersey:
8

9 ¹1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2020,
10 c.97, the annual appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2021, there is
11 appropriated the following sum/sum for the purpose specified:
12

82 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security
51 Economic Planning and Development

GRANTS-IN-AID

38-2043	Economic Development	\$35,000,000
	Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
	Economic Planning and Development.....	\$35,000,000

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Coronavirus Relief Fund – Assistance to Food
and Beverage Establishments, EDA..... (\$35,000,000)

13
14 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
15 –Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall be
16 allocated from a portion of federal block grant funds allocated to
17 the State from the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established
18 pursuant to the federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic
19 Security Act (CARES Act),” Pub.L.116-136, or any other federal
20 funds made available to the State in response to the coronavirus
21 disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.
22

23 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
24 – Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall
25 be allocated by the New Jersey Economic Development
26 Authority to restaurants and dining establishments at which 100
27 or fewer workers are employed at a location in this State, and to
28 bars, breweries, brewpubs, wineries, or other establishments
29 serving alcoholic beverages on its premises at which 100 or

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:

¹Assembly ACE committee amendments adopted March 8, 2021.

²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted March 17, 2021.

1 fewer workers are employed at a location in this State. The New
2 Jersey Economic Development Authority shall establish
3 minimum grant eligibility criteria and the size of the grant
4 awards to meet the needs of the grantee entities in responding to
5 the public health crisis.】¹

6
7 ¹1. a. Subject to the availability of federal funds provided or made
8 accessible to the State via federal block grant funds allocated to the
9 State from the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established pursuant
10 to the federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
11 (CARES Act),” Pub.L.116-136, or any other federal funds made
12 available to the State in response to the coronavirus disease 2019
13 (COVID-19) pandemic, \$35,000,000 from such federal funds shall be
14 made available to the New Jersey Economic Development Authority
15 for the purposes set forth in subsection b. of this section.

16 b. ²(1)² The funds made available to the New Jersey Economic
17 Development Authority pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall
18 be reserved by the authority to provide financial support, by way of
19 grants, to eligible food and beverage establishments. ²The authority
20 may use not more than five percent of the funds to defray any
21 administrative expenses incurred in the implementation of this section.

22 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this
23 subsection to the contrary, the authority may transfer the uncommitted
24 balance of any funds made available pursuant to this section to any
25 program established pursuant to P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
26 the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 5443 or Senate Bill No. 3523 of
27 2021), P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as
28 Assembly Bill No. 5445 or Senate Bill No. 3520 of 2021), P.L. ,
29 c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as Assembly Bill No.
30 5446 or Senate Bill No. 3519 of 2021), or P.L. , c. (C.)
31 (pending before the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 5447 or Senate
32 Bill No. 3521 of 2021). The authority shall submit notice to the Joint
33 Budget Oversight Committee no less than five calendar days before
34 the date of the transfer. At minimum, the notice shall indicate the
35 amount of the transferred funds and the purpose for which the funds
36 are transferred.²

37 c. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority shall
38 establish the size of the awards and eligibility of entities in subsection
39 b. of this section to meet the needs of the eligible food and beverage
40 establishments in responding to the public health crisis.

41 d. As used in this section “eligible food and beverage
42 establishments” means restaurants and dining establishments at which
43 ²【100】 50² or fewer workers are employed at a location in this State,
44 and bars, breweries, brewpubs, wineries, or other establishments
45 serving alcoholic beverages on its premises at which ²【100】 50² or
46 fewer workers are employed at a location in this State.¹

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

5

6 Makes \$35 million in federal funds available to EDA to support
7 food and beverage establishments in need.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5444

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman P. CHRISTOPHER TULLY

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman PEDRO MEJIA

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

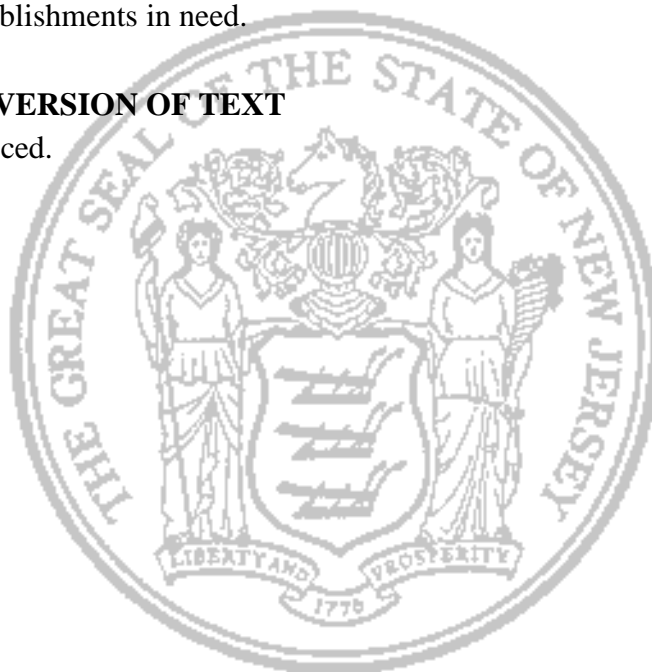
Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywomen Vainieri Huttle, Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Zwicker, Verrelli and Johnson

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$35 million in federal funds to EDA to support food and beverage establishments in need.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/8/2021)

1 A SUPPLEMENT to the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2020, c.97.

3

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

6

7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2020, c.97,
8 the annual appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2021, there is
9 appropriated the following sum/sum for the purpose specified:
10

82 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security
51 Economic Planning and Development

GRANTS-IN-AID

38-2043	Economic Development	\$35,000,000
	Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
	Economic Planning and Development.....	\$35,000,000

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Coronavirus Relief Fund – Assistance to Food
and Beverage Establishments, EDA..... (\$35,000,000)

11

12 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
13 –Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall be
14 allocated from a portion of federal block grant funds allocated to
15 the State from the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established
16 pursuant to the federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic
17 Security Act (CARES Act),” Pub.L.116-136, or any other federal
18 funds made available to the State in response to the coronavirus
19 disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

20

21 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
22 – Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall
23 be allocated by the New Jersey Economic Development
24 Authority to restaurants and dining establishments at which 100
25 or fewer workers are employed at a location in this State, and to
26 bars, breweries, brewpubs, wineries, or other establishments
27 serving alcoholic beverages on its premises at which 100 or
28 fewer workers are employed at a location in this State. The New
29 Jersey Economic Development Authority shall establish
30 minimum grant eligibility criteria and the size of the grant
31 awards to meet the needs of the grantee entities in responding to
32 the public health crisis.

33

34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5444

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 8, 2021

The Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 5444.

This bill, as amended, makes \$35 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to restaurants and bars with fewer than 100 employees and who are in need of support as a result of the public health crisis.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill so that it is not a supplemental appropriation, but rather makes funding available for the bill's designated purpose.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5444

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 17, 2021

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5444 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes \$35 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to restaurants and bars with 50 or fewer employees and who are in need of support as a result of the public health crisis. The EDA may use up to five percent of these funds to support administrative expenses.

The bill also allows the EDA to transfer the uncommitted balance of these funds to certain other programs administered by the authority using federal COVID-19 response funding. However, the EDA would be required to submit notice of the transfer to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

(1) reduce from 100 to 50 the maximum number of employees who may be employed by an eligible food and beverage establishment;

(2) allow the EDA to use up to five percent of the federal funds to support administrative expenses incurred in the implementation of the bill; and

(3) allow the EDA to transfer the uncommitted balance of federal funds to certain other programs administered by the authority using federal COVID-19 response funding, provided that the EDA submit notice to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

SENATE, No. 3524

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 9, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator VIN GOPAL

District 11 (Monmouth)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Senators Thompson, Addiego, Cunningham, Cruz-Perez, Diegnan,
Greenstein, Oroho, O'Scanlon, Ruiz, Sarlo, Singleton and Testa**

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$35 million in federal funds to EDA to support food and beverage establishments in need.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/22/2021)

1 A SUPPLEMENT to the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations act,
2 P.L.2020, c.97.

3

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

6

7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2020, c.97,
8 the annual appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2021, there is
9 appropriated the following sum for the purpose specified:

10

82 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security
51 Economic Planning and Development

GRANTS-IN-AID

38-2043	Economic Development	\$35,000,000
	Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
	Economic Planning and Development.....	\$35,000,000

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Coronavirus Relief Fund – Assistance to Food
and Beverage Establishments, EDA..... (\$35,000,000)

11

12 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
13 –Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall be
14 allocated from a portion of federal block grant funds allocated to
15 the State from the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established
16 pursuant to the federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic
17 Security Act (CARES Act),” Pub.L.116-136, or any other federal
18 funds made available to the State in response to the coronavirus
19 disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

20

21 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
22 – Assistance to Food and Beverage Establishments, EDA shall
23 be allocated by the New Jersey Economic Development
24 Authority to restaurants and dining establishments at which 100
25 or fewer workers are employed at a location in this State, and to
26 bars, breweries, brewpubs, wineries, or other establishments
27 serving alcoholic beverages on its premises at which 100 or
28 fewer workers are employed at a location in this State. The New
29 Jersey Economic Development Authority shall establish
30 minimum grant eligibility criteria and the size of the grant
31 awards to meet the needs of the grantee entities in responding to
32 the public health crisis.

33

34 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

35

STATEMENT

36

37
38 This bill appropriates \$35 million in federal funds to the
39 Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants for the

S3524 GOPAL, LAGANA

3

1 public purpose of supporting an important part of the State's
2 economy affected by the public health crisis. The grants will be
3 awarded by the EDA to restaurants and bars with fewer than 100
4 employees and who are in need of support as a result of the public
5 health crisis.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3524

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 22, 2021

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3524, with committee amendments.

As amended, the bill makes \$35 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to restaurants and bars with 50 or fewer employees and who are in need of support as a result of the public health crisis. The EDA may use up to five percent of these funds to support administrative expenses.

The bill also allows the EDA to transfer the uncommitted balance of these funds to certain other programs administered by the authority using federal COVID-19 response funding. However, the EDA would be required to submit notice of the transfer to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

(1) restructure the bill such that it is not a supplemental appropriation, but rather makes funding available for the bill's designated purpose;

(2) reduce from 100 to 50 the maximum number of employees who may be employed by an eligible food and beverage establishment;

(3) allow the EDA to use up to five percent of the federal funds to support administrative expenses incurred in the implementation of the bill; and

(4) allow the EDA to transfer the uncommitted balance of federal funds to certain other programs administered by the authority using federal COVID-19 response funding, provided that the EDA submit notice to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Providing \$35 Million in Aid to Restaurants

04/9/2021

Legislation is Part of a \$100 Million Relief Package for New Jersey Small Businesses

ATLANTIC CITY – Governor Phil Murphy today signed into law A-5444, which provides \$35 million in federal COVID-19 relief aid for restaurants throughout New Jersey. The bill – sponsored by Senators Vin Gopal and Joseph Lagana and Assembly Members Vincent Mazzeo, Pedro Mejia, Christopher Tully, and Louis Greenwald – provides aid to a particularly hard hit sector of New Jersey’s economy. The bill is part of a five-bill, \$100 million relief effort aimed at helping New Jersey’s small businesses recover from the year-long pandemic.

“For the past year, our restaurants have fought the good fight, and we know that fight has not been easy,” **said Governor Murphy**. “This legislation will provide a much-needed lifeline to small business owners, who, through no fault of their own, have been devastated by this pandemic.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented health and economic tragedy for everyone, but it is hard to think of a sector that has been hit harder than restaurants. Restaurant owners and their employees have faced previously unimaginable challenges with a tenacity and grit that has been inspiring for everyone, but they cannot overcome COVID-19 alone,” **said NJEDA Chief Executive Officer Tim Sullivan**. “There is now a light at the end of the tunnel, but we still have a long way to go to get there. The \$35 million in new grant funding Governor Murphy has signed into law today will provide vital support these businesses need to bridge the gap and continue reopening safely.”

“Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were more than 19,000 food and beverage establishments throughout New Jersey, with restaurants employing nearly 8 percent of the workers in our state,” **said Assembly Members Mazzeo, Tully, Mejia and Greenwald**. “The public health emergency has taken a significant toll on this industry, which so many of us benefit from and enjoy. We must provide support to these establishments to help them get through this crisis and allow them to employ New Jerseyans while continuing to serve residents and visitors alike for years to come.”

“With capacity limitations affecting bars and restaurants, the food and drink industry has been struggling since the start of the pandemic,” **said Senator Gopal**. “Many of these smaller restaurants and bars have been fraught with the potential of closing down permanently, which would not only have an effect on the local economies, but the job status of many workers within this industry. This funding will help ensure that these establishments can keep their doors open and help restore the jobs that have been lost due to the pandemic.”

“Mom and pop restaurants and bars have always been keystones in our communities, creating multigenerational traditions and shaping neighborhoods. Sadly, many of these institutions have been forced to close or suffered greatly over the last year,” **said Senator Lagana**. “With this grant funding, we are giving beloved small businesses an opportunity to get through the hard times, hire workers and remain an integral part of their community.”

The relief aid will be administered by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. To date, the NJEDA has distributed more than \$250 million in aid to some 55,000 businesses across the state.

The signing was held at Bourré, an industrial-themed New Orleans pub in Atlantic City.

This Week in NJ: April 9th, 2021

04/9/2021



Governor Murphy Announces All Individuals Age 16 and Older Will be Eligible for COVID-19 Vaccination on April 19

Governor Phil Murphy announced that all individuals ages 16 and older will be eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination on April 19 – two weeks ahead of the state's initial target of May 1. New Jersey's phased vaccination roll out has successfully administered 4.7 million doses of vaccine to essential frontline workers, educators, high-risk groups, and other eligible adults who live, work, or study in the state.

"Over the last several months, our Administration has worked closely with our communities and federal partners to ensure an efficient, accessible, and equitable vaccination program," said **Governor Murphy**. "Together, we have administered 4.7 million doses of vaccine and opened more than 750 vaccination sites across the state, with 98.7 percent of all New Jerseyans living within five miles of where they can receive a vaccine. With an expected increase in vaccine allocation from the federal government, coupled with our extensive network of vaccination distribution sites, we can confidently expand our eligibility to all individuals ages 16 and older who live, work, or study in New Jersey on April 19."

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Marks Beginning of Testing for NJ TRANSIT Dual-Power Locomotives

Governor Murphy, NJ TRANSIT Chair Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, NJ TRANSIT President & CEO Kevin Corbett, and local officials marked the beginning of testing of the first of 25 new ALP-45 dual-power locomotives manufactured by Alstom during a ceremony that was held on Track A at Newark Penn Station.

"Since day one, our administration has been committed to building a better, more reliable, and sustainable NJ TRANSIT," said **Governor Murphy**. "This locomotive is the first of 25 that will reinvigorate the NJ TRANSIT fleet with new, environmentally-friendly equipment. New Jersey commuters deserve only the best, and that is what we are delivering to them today."

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Providing \$15 Million in Aid to Arts and Cultural Venues

Governor Phil Murphy signed into law S-3521, which provides \$15 million in federal COVID-19 relief aid for arts and cultural venues throughout New Jersey.

“Our arts and cultural establishments are among the best in the nation, but they have faced difficult challenges over the past year,” said **Governor Murphy**. “It’s time we lifted up these organizations and venues to ensure they are still with us as we emerge from the pandemic and look to once again experience the joy they offer.”

[READ MORE](#)



Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Providing \$35 Million in Aid to Restaurants

Governor Phil Murphy signed into law A-5444, which provides \$35 million in federal COVID-19 relief aid for restaurants throughout New Jersey. The bill is part of a five-bill, \$100 million relief effort aimed at helping New Jersey’s small businesses recover from the year-long pandemic.

“For the past year, our restaurants have fought the good fight, and we know that fight has not been easy,” said **Governor Murphy**. “This legislation will provide a much-needed lifeline to small business owners, who, through no fault of their own, have been devastated by this pandemic.”

[READ MORE](#)



: Governor Murphy and Attorney General Grewal Release Recommendations of Interagency Working Group on Body Worn Cameras

Governor Phil Murphy and Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal released the final report of the Interagency Working Group on Body Worn Cameras.

“We welcome the recommendations of the working group, which focus on ways for government and police to work together to save money in purchasing body worn cameras and the related technology needed to operate them,” said **Governor Murphy**. “Because of their power to promote transparency and accountability, body worn cameras are a vital tool for building trust between our police officers and the diverse communities they serve— a trust shaken by the racial injustices we have witnessed across the United States. New Jersey proudly leads the nation when it comes to policing reforms designed to serve fairness, justice, and the safety of residents and officers alike.”

“We will carefully review these recommendations as we work to support police departments in the statewide deployment of these important devices,” said **Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal**. “Body worn cameras have the support of police as well as the public, because the accountability they provide is mutual— everyone behaves better when they know they are on camera. Body cameras not only promote safer and more professional law enforcement interactions, they assist police in gathering evidence and serve to reduce unfounded complaints against officers. Officers report that body-worn cameras can even help to de-escalate volatile situations.”

[READ MORE](#)



