

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 47, *approved April 13, 2021*
Assembly, No. 5445 (*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 child
4 care ²**[centers]** providers² in need¹.
5

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

9 ¹**[1.** In 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 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	\$10,000,000
Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
Economic Planning and Development.....	\$10,000,000

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Coronavirus Relief Fund – Assistance to Child Care Centers, EDA.....	(\$10,000,000)
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13
14 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
15 –Assistance to Child Care Centers, EDA shall be allocated from
16 a portion of federal block grant funds allocated to the State from
17 the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established pursuant to the
18 federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
19 (CARES Act),” Pub.L.116-136, or any other federal funds made
20 available to the State in response to the coronavirus disease 2019
21 (COVID-19) pandemic.
22

23 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
24 – Assistance to Child Care Centers, EDA shall be allocated by
25 the New Jersey Economic Development Authority child care
26 centers licensed by the Department of Children and Families.
27 The New Jersey Economic Development Authority shall
28 establish minimum grant eligibility criteria and the size of the
29 grant awards to meet the needs of the grantee entities in
30 responding to the public health crisis.]¹
31

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

11 b. ²(1)² The funds made available to the New Jersey Economic
 12 Development Authority pursuant to subsection a. of this section
 13 shall be reserved by the authority to provide financial support, by
 14 way of grants, to child care ²[centers licensed by the Department of
 15 Children and Families] providers. The authority may use not more
 16 than five percent of the funds to defray any administrative expenses
 17 incurred in the implementation of this section.

18 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this
 19 subsection to the contrary, the authority may transfer the
 20 uncommitted balance of any funds made available pursuant to this
 21 section to any program established pursuant to
 22 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as Assembly
 23 Bill No. 5443 or Senate Bill No. 3523 of 2021),
 24 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as Assembly
 25 Bill No. 5444 or Senate Bill No. 3524 of 2021),
 26 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as Assembly
 27 Bill No. 5446 or Senate Bill No. 3519 of 2021), or
 28 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as Assembly
 29 Bill No. 5447 or Senate Bill No. 3521 of 2021). The authority shall
 30 submit notice to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee no less than
 31 five calendar days before the date of the transfer. At minimum, the
 32 notice shall indicate the amount of the transferred funds and the
 33 purpose for which the funds are transferred².

34 c. The New Jersey Economic Development Authority shall
 35 establish the size of the awards and eligibility of entities in
 36 subsection b. of this section to meet the needs of child care
 37 ²[centers] providers² in responding to the public health crisis.¹

38
 39 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
 40
 41
 42
 43

44 _____
 45 Makes \$10 million in federal funds available to EDA to support
 child care providers in need.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5445

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman LISA SWAIN

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman ADAM J. TALIAFERRO

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$10 million in federal funds to EDA to support child care centers in need.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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,
8 c.97, the annual appropriations act for Fiscal Year 2021, there is
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82 DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
50 Economic Planning, Development, and Security
51 Economic Planning and Development

GRANTS-IN-AID

38-2043	Economic Development	\$10,000,000
	Total Grants-in-Aid Appropriation,	
	Economic Planning and Development.....	\$10,000,000

Grants-in-Aid:

38 Coronavirus Relief Fund – Assistance to Child
Care Centers, EDA..... (\$10,000,000)

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14 a portion of federal block grant funds allocated to the State from
15 the federal “Coronavirus Relief Fund” established pursuant to the
16 federal “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
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18 available to the State in response to the coronavirus disease 2019
19 (COVID-19) pandemic.

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21 The amount hereinabove appropriated for Coronavirus Relief Fund
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24 centers licensed by the Department of Children and Families.
25 The New Jersey Economic Development Authority shall
26 establish minimum grant eligibility criteria and the size of the
27 grant awards to meet the needs of the grantee entities in
28 responding to the public health crisis.

29

30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

31

32

STATEMENT

33

34
35 This bill appropriates \$10 million in federal funds to the
36 Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants for the
37 public purpose of supporting an important part of the State’s

A5445 SWAIN, MOSQUERA

3

1 economy affected by the public health crisis. The grants will be
2 awarded by the EDA to child care centers licensed by the
3 Department of Children and Families and who are in need of
4 support as a result of the public health crisis.

ASSEMBLY COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5445

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. 5445.

This bill, as amended, makes \$10 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to child care centers licensed by the Department of Children and Families 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. 5445

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 17, 2021

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5445 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes \$10 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to child care providers that 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) remove the requirement for eligible child care providers to be licensed by the Department of Children and Families;

(2) replace references to “child care centers” with “child care providers”;

(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.

SENATE, No. 3520

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 9, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

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

SYNOPSIS

Appropriates \$10 million in federal funds to EDA to support child care centers 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
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7 1. In addition to the amounts appropriated under P.L.2020,
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STATEMENT

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35 This bill appropriates \$10 million in federal funds to the
36 Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants for the
37 public purpose of supporting an important part of the State’s

S3520 RUIZ, LAGANA

3

1 economy affected by the public health crisis. The grants will be
2 awarded by the EDA to child care centers licensed by the
3 Department of Children and Families and who are in need of
4 support as a result of the public health crisis.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3520

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 22, 2021

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3520, with committee amendments.

As amended, the bill makes \$10 million in federal funds available to the Economic Development Authority (EDA) to award grants to child care providers that 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) remove the requirement for eligible child care providers to be licensed by the Department of Children and Families;

(3) replace references to "child care centers" with "child care providers";

(4) 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

(5) 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 \$10 Million in Relief to Child Care Providers

04/13/2021

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

PARAMUS – Governor Phil Murphy today signed into law A-5445, which provides \$10 million in federal COVID-19 relief aid for child care providers throughout New Jersey. The bill – sponsored by Senators M. Teresa Ruiz and Joseph Lagana and Assembly Members Lisa Swain, Gabriela Mosquera, and Adam Taliaferro – will provide grants to child care providers in need. The bill is part of a five-bill, \$100 million relief effort aimed at helping New Jersey’s economy recover from the year-long pandemic.

“Child care providers are absolutely critical to New Jersey’s workforce, and the COVID-19 pandemic has hit them especially hard,” said **Governor Murphy**. “This legislation will help to ensure that these providers can continue to weather the pandemic and remain open and able to meet the needs of so many New Jerseyans who rely on them.”

“Over the last year, our child care centers have had to navigate necessary COVID-19 safety protocols and restrictions, which have created additional pressures on their budgets,” said **Senator Ruiz**. “This funding will help ensure these businesses are able to keep their doors open and continue to serve their communities as parents begin working in person once again. We cannot afford to have this industry collapse, they are part of what makes New Jersey strong.”

“The pandemic caused an outsized financial impact on the childcare centers so many families rely on. Reduced capacity has taken a serious toll on these businesses,” said **Senator Lagana**. “Federal funding allocated by this law will help them remain open and able to serve their communities as many parents return to working in person.”

“The parents in our state both require and deserve affordable, accessible child care. Providing financial support to child care centers in need will help ensure these critical services are available to them,” said **Assembly Members Swain, Mosquera and Taliaferro**.

“During the height of the pandemic, more than half of child care providers had to close their doors, hurting our families and our economy,” said **Congressman Josh Gottheimer**. “But now, thanks to the bipartisan CARES Act, federal resources are being delivered to support our families and child care providers, and to help them recover.”

“Even when faced with unprecedented difficult challenges, child care providers have played a crucial role in the state’s COVID-19 response and have showed steadfast resiliency and dedication to supporting New Jersey’s working families,” said **Department of Human Services Acting Commissioner Sarah Adelman**. “Without the commitment of child care providers so many of our frontline essential workers would have been unable to go to work filling so many important needs. I thank Governor Murphy for signing this bill and the Legislature for moving this forward. These grants will prove vital to child care providers that need support as a result of this public health crisis, and along with the efforts by the Murphy Administration, will help child care providers continue to support New Jersey families and help our state’s economy and workforce move forward.”

“Child care providers and the vital services they provide for working families are critical to ensuring a

strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic,” **said NJEDA Chief Executive Officer Tim Sullivan.** “The funding Governor Murphy has announced today will be a lifeline for these businesses that will allow them to continue providing quality care for children throughout the state.”

The Murphy Administration has spent nearly \$200 million of Coronavirus Relief Funds on child care capacity since last fall. To date, over 3,000 child care providers have received grants to meet new COVID-19 health and safety precautions and stabilize their operations, and a similar amount received enhanced subsidy payments between September and February.

The relief aid will be administered by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, which so far has provided more than \$250 million in aid to 55,000 New Jersey businesses. EDA will open an application pre-registration process for the grant money later this month

This Week in NJ: April 16th, 2021

04/16/2021



Governor Murphy Unveils Sweeping Gun Safety Package

Governor Murphy unveiled a sweeping series of reforms aimed at reducing the epidemic of gun violence. The proposals, when paired with previous steps the Governor and members of the Legislature have taken to reduce gun violence, will further solidify New Jersey's standing as a national leader in gun safety.

"Half of New Jersey's gun homicides occur in only five cities, and the number of gun crimes in these cities has skyrocketed over the last year," **said Governor Murphy**. "We cannot sit back when we know there is more to do to address the danger of gun violence in our communities. By taking the steps we are announcing today, we will further commit to making every block and every street in our state safer."

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Nominates Shawn LaTourette as New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner

Governor Murphy announced his nomination of Shawn LaTourette as the next Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

“The decisions made by the Department of Environmental

Protection are not just important for today, but will have far reaching impacts across generations,” **said Governor Murphy**. “The work we do now for cleaner air and water, to meaningfully combat climate change, to ensure that every community is treated with dignity and respect and that the principles of environmental justice serve us every day, will far outlive us all. Shawn’s passion for environmental protection, coupled with his extensive knowledge on climate, energy, and infrastructure, will help build an environmental legacy that exemplifies these principles. I am confident that with Shawn’s leadership, we will create a cleaner, more sustainable New Jersey that we are proud to leave for future generations.”

“To serve the people of New Jersey as Commissioner of Environmental Protection is an honor beyond any I could have imagined, and I am grateful to Governor Murphy for his outstanding environmental leadership, and his confidence in mine,” **said Acting Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Shawn M. LaTourette**. “New Jersey has no shortage of environmental challenges—from confronting the climate crisis to modernizing our water infrastructure—challenges that also present us with an incredible opportunity to grow our economy, lift our people, and further the promise of environmental justice. NJDEP is charting a new course for the future in our great state, with a stronger, more just environment at its center. I am eager to lead the Department in supporting Governor Murphy in his vision to make New Jersey a national model for its commitment to a more resilient, fairer, *greener* future for everyone.”

[READ MORE](#)



Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Providing \$15 Million in Aid to Small Businesses and Non-Profits

Governor Murphy signed into law A-A5446, which provides \$15 million in federal COVID-19 relief aid for small businesses throughout New Jersey. The bill – sponsored by Senators Linda Greenstein and Joseph Lagana and Assembly Members Joann Downey, Andrew Zwicker, and Sterley Stanley – provides aid in the form of grants to small businesses and non-profits in need.



“New Jersey’s small businesses were particularly hard hit by the ravages of COVID-19,” **said Governor Murphy.** “This legislation, along with three additional bills I signed last week and one I will sign in the near future, will go a long way toward helping hundreds of state businesses keep their doors open as we recover from this year-long ordeal.”

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Providing \$10 Million in Relief to Child Care Providers

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Taliaferro – will provide grants to child care providers in need. The bill is part of a five-bill, \$100 million relief effort aimed at helping New Jersey’s economy recover from the year-long pandemic.

“Child care providers are absolutely critical to New Jersey’s workforce, and the COVID-19 pandemic has hit them especially hard,” said **Governor Murphy**. “This legislation will help to ensure that these providers can continue to weather the pandemic and remain open and able to meet the needs of so many New Jerseyans who rely on them.”

[READ MORE](#)

Governor Murphy Announces Nominations for Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Board of Commissioners

Governor Murphy announced his intent to nominate Michelle Richardson, Dana Martinotti, and Robert Menendez, Jr. to the Board of Commissioners of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The Governor also announced his intent to re-nominate Commissioner Kevin McCabe.



“It is my pleasure to nominate this group of experienced and capable professionals to the Board of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey,” said **Governor Murphy**. “I know that Michelle, Dana, and Rob will continue and build upon the great work that Kevin and the other Commissioners have done over the years.”

[READ MORE](#)