

SENATE, No. 1065

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Veteran Services Grant Program in DMVA; makes appropriation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/29/2024)

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1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Veteran Services Grant
2 Program and supplementing Title 38A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes, and making an appropriation.
4

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

8 1. a. There is established in the Department of Military and
9 Veterans Affairs a veteran services grant program. The purpose of
10 the program shall be to assist veterans in applying for and receiving
11 State and federal benefits and to provide training for veterans
12 service officers employed by the department. The grants shall be
13 awarded to qualified veterans' organizations.

14 b. The grants shall be allocated on a competitive basis. The
15 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs shall:

16 (1) develop guidelines and procedures for the submission of
17 grant applications, and criteria for the evaluation of such
18 applications;

19 (2) establish terms and conditions for the awarding of a grant
20 under this section, and monitor grant recipients' compliance with
21 the terms and conditions;

22 (3) require the recipient of the grant to report to the department
23 information relating to its use of grant funds under the program; and

24 (4) submit a report to the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of
25 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), the Legislature, during each year in
26 which a grant is awarded, on the effectiveness of the grant program
27 in assisting veterans with applications for State and federal benefits
28 and in providing training for the veterans service officers of the
29 department.

30 A qualified veterans' organization that seeks to apply for a grant
31 under this program shall submit an application to the department.
32 The application shall, at a minimum, include a detailed outline of
33 the training to be provided to State veterans service officers or the
34 number of additional veterans service officers the organization will
35 provide to veterans, or both.

36 A qualified veterans' organization may be awarded a grant for
37 training only, veterans' assistance only, or both. Each recipient of a
38 grant shall report to the department information relating to its use of
39 grant funds under the program.

40 c. The department may, pursuant to the "Administrative
41 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt rules
42 and regulations as are necessary to establish and implement the
43 grant program.

44 d. The Adjutant General shall include with the annual budget
45 request for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs a
46 request for funds sufficient to carry out the purposes and intent of
47 this section.

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1 e. As used in this section, "qualified veterans' organization"
2 means a nonprofit veterans' organization that qualifies as a section
3 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) tax exempt organization under the Internal
4 Revenue Code, or a federally chartered Veterans' Service
5 Organization.

6
7 2. There is appropriated \$2,000,000 from the General Fund to
8 the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for the New Jersey
9 Veteran Services Grant Program.

10
11 3. This act shall take effect immediately.