

STATE OF NEW YORK

2251

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 20, 2021

Introduced by Sen. HELMING -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the disaster-related latent damage recovery grant program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 719 to
2 read as follows:

3 § 719. Disaster-related latent damage recovery grant program. 1.
4 There is hereby established the disaster-related latent damage recovery
5 grant program to be administered by the division of homeland security
6 and emergency services.

7 2. Projects eligible for program grants shall be limited to projects
8 to repair latent damage to public infrastructure, including publicly-
9 owned roads, bridges, drainage and flood mitigation systems, electrical
10 and mechanical systems and communication systems, and any ancillary
11 infrastructure necessary for the safe operation of the components there-
12 of, where such damage was the result of a natural disaster for which the
13 governor of the state of New York made a declaration of a state of emer-
14 gency. For purposes of this section, "latent damage" shall be defined as
15 damage that was not reasonably apparent during any initial damage
16 assessments. In no event shall grants be awarded for, nor shall grant
17 money be used for, infrastructure repairs that are required due to
18 normal use and wear and tear.

19 3. The commissioner of the division of homeland security and emergency
20 services shall establish procedures for receipt of applications from
21 municipalities and for the issuance of grants authorized by this section
22 within available appropriations. Application for such grants shall be
23 submitted no more than seven years, but no less than one year, after the
24 governor's declaration of the state of emergency that renders a muni-
25 city eligible for grants authorized by this section. In no event shall

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 grants exceed ten percent of the sum of any state or federal disaster
2 assistance monies granted to a municipality as a result of a natural
3 disaster that were awarded prior to an application for a grant stemming
4 from the same natural disaster. In no event shall a municipality receive
5 a grant in excess of ten million dollars in a given calendar year.

6 4. Funding for such program shall consist of all revenue received
7 pursuant to an appropriation thereto, and all other monies appropriated,
8 credited or transferred from any other source pursuant to law. Nothing
9 in this section shall be deemed to prevent the state from receiving
10 grants, gifts or bequests for the purpose of the program. Grants shall
11 only be awarded based upon the availability of funds.

12 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of April next succeeding
13 the date on which it shall have become a law. Effective immediately,
14 the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation neces-
15 sary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are
16 authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.