

STATE OF NEW YORK

7345

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

August 25, 2021

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

AN ACT to amend chapter 53 of the laws of 2021, enacting the aid to localities budget, in relation to repaying our Afghan allies

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "repaying our Afghan allies act".

§ 2. As a result of the United States' withdrawal from Afghanistan, thousands of Afghans who bravely assisted our service members in a variety of roles, including as interpreters and guides, are now at risk of death at the hands of the Taliban. This bill is intended to be a small repayment from the people of New York of the debt our nation owes to our Afghan allies who now need to leave their homeland and make a new home in the United States.

§ 3. Section 1 of chapter 53 of the laws of 2021, enacting the aid to localities budget, is amended by repealing the items herein below set forth in brackets and by adding to such section the other items underscored in this section:

SPECIALIZED SERVICES PROGRAM	[2,785,196,000]	<u>2,861,796,000</u>

General Fund

Local Assistance Account - 10000

Special Revenue Funds - Federal

Federal Health and Human Services Fund

Refugee Resettlement Account - 25160

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

LBD13100-01-1

1 For services related to refugee programs
2 including but not limited to the Cuban-
3 Haitian and refugee resettlement program
4 and the Cuban-Haitian and refugee targeted
5 assistance program provided pursuant to
6 the federal refugee assistance act of 1980
7 as amended.

8 Funds appropriated herein shall be available
9 for aid to municipalities and for payments
10 to the federal government for expenditures
11 made pursuant to the social services law
12 and the state plan for individual and
13 family grant program under the disaster
14 relief act of 1974.

15 Such funds are to be available for payment
16 of aid heretofore accrued or hereafter to
17 accrue to municipalities. Subject to the
18 approval of the director of the budget,
19 such funds shall be available to the
20 office of temporary and disability assist-
21 ance net of disallowances, refunds,
22 reimbursements, and credits.

23 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision
24 of law, funds appropriated herein, subject
25 to the approval of the director of the
26 budget and in accordance with a memorandum
27 of understanding between the office of
28 temporary and disability assistance and
29 any other state agency, may be transferred
30 or suballocated to any other state agency
31 for expenses related to refugee programs.

32 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision
33 of law, and subject to the approval of the
34 director of the budget, the amount appro-
35 priated herein may be increased or
36 decreased through transfer or interchange
37 with any other federal appropriation with-
38 in the office of temporary and disability
39 assistance (52304) 26,000,000

40 For services and expenses of repaying our
41 Afghan allies. For the purposes of this
42 appropriation, repaying our Afghan allies
43 shall mean providing assistance for the
44 resettlement of Afghan refugees who are
45 part of the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)
46 program or any other program established
47 by the federal government for refugees
48 from Afghanistan in light of the Taliban
49 takeover of the country in 2021. Notwith-
50 standing any inconsistent provision of
51 law, this appropriation shall be used for
52 grants in aid or expenses of contracts
53 with not-for-profit agencies to be deter-
54 mined pursuant to a plan to be developed
55 by the office of temporary and disability
56 assistance and the office for new Ameri-

cans in the department of state, in
consultation with the director of the
budget. The funds appropriated herein may
be transferred or suballocated to any aid
to localities, state operations, or capi-
tal appropriation of any state department,
agency, or authority to accomplish the
intent or purposes stated herein 50,000,000

Program account subtotal [~~26,000,000~~] 76,000,000

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to
have been in full force and effect on and after April 1, 2021.