

STATE OF NEW YORK

5362

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 7, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. WALLACE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT to amend chapter 53 of the laws of 2021, enacting the aid to localities budget, in relation to supporting refugees from Afghanistan and Ukraine

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 "securing and assisting vulnerable evacuees (SAVE) act".

§ 2. Recent turmoil in Afghanistan and Ukraine has caused a significant flight of people from both nations, requiring other countries throughout the world to assist in the resettlement of individuals and families who have been displaced through no fault of their own. This bill is intended to allocate adequate funding to support a potential significant increase in the number of refugees that New York state will be taking in as a result of these ongoing situations.

§ 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~~] 2,821,796,000

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.

LBD09130-01-3

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 supporting
41 Afghan and Ukrainian refugees. For the
42 purposes of this appropriation, supporting
43 Afghan and Ukrainian refugees shall mean
44 providing assistance for the resettlement
45 of Afghan and Ukrainian refugees who are
46 part of any program established by the
47 federal government for refugees from
48 Afghanistan in light of the Taliban take-
49 over of the country in 2021 and the
50 Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.
51 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision
52 of law, this appropriation shall be used
53 for grants in aid or expenses of contracts
54 with not-for-profit agencies to be deter-
55 mined pursuant to a plan to be developed
56 by the office of temporary and disability

assistance and the office for new Americans 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 capital appropriation of any state department, agency, or authority to accomplish the intent or purposes stated herein 10,000,000

Program account subtotal [~~26,000,000~~] 36,000,000

§ 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.