STATE OF NEW YORK

8460

IN SENATE

January 31, 2024

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

AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to establishing a municipal senior center capital support program in the office for the aging to assist municipalities in accessing capital funds necessary for the purchase of senior buses; and making an appropriation therefor

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

Section 1. The elder law is amended by adding a new section 226 to read as follows:

§ 226. Municipal senior center capital support program. 1. There is hereby created within the office for the aging a municipal senior center capital support program to assist municipalities in the purchase of vehicles for the transportation of senior citizens residing within the boundaries of the municipality to qualifying events as determined by the director.

2. Within amounts specifically appropriated therefore, the director shall award grants to a municipality in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars per municipality for the acquisition of buses or other means of transportation related equipment for the purpose of transportation of senior citizens. Such buses and/or equipment shall have a useful life of not less than five years.

3. No funds authorized under this section may be used as a required match or be considered a local share to any other state program or to leverage state aid or grants.

4. (a) The director of the state office for the aging shall develop an application for use by eligible municipalities to apply for a grant, a list of approved transportation equipment, and criteria for the disbursement of funds authorized to an eligible municipality.

(b) The director shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

5. For the purposes of this section, "municipality" means a municipal corporation as defined pursuant to section one hundred nineteen-n of the general municipal law.

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

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§ 2. The sum of three million dollars ($3,000,000), or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the state office for the aging out of any moneys in the state treasury in the general fund, not otherwise appropriated, and made immediately available, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act. Such moneys shall be payable on the audit and warrant of the comptroller on vouchers certified or approved by the director of the state office for the aging in the manner prescribed by law.

§ 3. Severability clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such invalid provisions had not been included herein.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.