

STATE OF NEW YORK

8240

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

November 6, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. JONES, BUTTENSCHON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Codes

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to law enforcement officer and firefighter grant funds

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

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "public safety investment act".

3 § 2. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 844 to read
4 as follows:

5 § 844. Law enforcement officer grant funds. 1. Within amounts appro-
6 priated for such purpose, in the years two thousand twenty-four, two
7 thousand twenty-five and two thousand twenty-six, one hundred fifty
8 million dollars shall be available and allocated each year pursuant to
9 subdivisions two and three of this section and shall be paid to cover
10 all expenses related to hiring law enforcement officers, including any
11 benefits provided to such officers through employment with their respec-
12 tive law enforcement agency.

13 2. One hundred twelve million five hundred thousand dollars of the
14 funds allocated pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be
15 available to law enforcement agencies for the purpose of hiring new
16 police officers or rehiring police officers who have been laid off,
17 hiring members of the armed forces to serve as law enforcement officers
18 in crime prevention, and supporting non-hiring initiatives, such as
19 training law enforcement officers in crime prevention, community polic-
20 ing techniques, and developing technologies that support crime
21 prevention strategies. Eligible law enforcement agencies shall be
22 eligible for up to ninety percent of the costs associated with such
23 hiring or non-hiring initiatives; provided, however that such law
24 enforcement agencies shall commit to employing such officers for at

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

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1 least five years, retaining such officers for at least two additional
2 years after the three years of grant funding expires.

3 3. Thirty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars of the funds
4 allocated pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be available
5 to law enforcement agencies for the purchase of equipment, such as
6 firearms, riot gear, and protective vests; provided, however, that such
7 grant funds shall not be expended on the purchase or maintenance of
8 police cruisers or other vehicles used by law enforcement agencies.

9 4. The commissioner, in cooperation with the attorney general and the
10 superintendent of state police, shall establish eligibility criteria and
11 the application process for the grants provided for pursuant to this
12 section. Grant information and application forms shall be made avail-
13 able through the New York state grants gateway.

14 § 3. The executive law is amended by adding a new section 158-a to
15 read as follows:

16 § 158-a. Firefighter grant funds. 1. Within amounts appropriated for
17 such purpose, in the years two thousand twenty-four, two thousand twen-
18 ty-five and two thousand twenty-six, one hundred fifty million dollars
19 shall be available and allocated each year pursuant to subdivisions two
20 and three of this section and shall be paid to cover all expenses
21 related to hiring firefighters, including any benefits provided to such
22 firefighters through employment with their respective fire department.

23 2. One hundred twelve million five hundred thousand dollars of the
24 funds allocated pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be
25 available to fire departments for the purchase of equipment.

26 3. Thirty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars of the funds
27 allocated pursuant to subdivision one of this section shall be available
28 to fire departments for the purpose of hiring new firefighters or rehiring
29 firefighters who have been laid off and supporting non-hiring initi-
30 atives, such as training firefighters in fire prevention and developing
31 technologies that support firefighting strategies. Eligible fire depart-
32 ments shall be eligible for up to ninety percent of the costs associated
33 with such hiring or non-hiring initiatives; provided, however that such
34 fire departments shall commit to employing such firefighters for at
35 least five years, retaining such firefighters for at least two addi-
36 tional years after the three years of grant funding expires.

37 4. The state fire administrator shall establish eligibility criteria
38 and the application process for the grants provided for pursuant to this
39 section. Grant information and application forms shall be made available
40 through the New York state grants gateway.

41 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.