

ASSEMBLY, No. 5677

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 28, 2023

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ALEX SAUICKIE

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Dunn

SYNOPSIS

Establishes grant program in Department of State for preservation of certain Revolutionary War sites; appropriates funds.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)

A5677 SAUICKIE

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1 AN ACT establishing a grant program in the Department of State for
2 the preservation, extension, and management of certain
3 Revolutionary War sites, and making an appropriation.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. a. The Department of State shall establish a program to
9 provide grants to local government units and qualifying tax exempt
10 not for profit entities to support the preservation, extension, and
11 management of Revolutionary War Battlefields, encampments, and
12 skirmish sites in New Jersey that are endangered due to
13 development.

14 b. In establishing the grant program pursuant to this section, the
15 department shall:

16 (1) develop guidelines and procedures for submission of grant
17 applications, and criteria for the evaluation of such applications;

18 (2) establish terms and conditions for the awarding of a grant
19 under this section, and monitor grant recipients' compliance with
20 the terms and conditions; and

21 (3) require the recipient of a grant to report to the department
22 information relating to its use of grant funds under the program.

23 c. Grants shall be awarded on a competitive basis based upon
24 the following criteria:

25 (1) submission of specific plans and objectives for the
26 preservation, expansion, or management of the Revolutionary War
27 Battlefield, encampment, or skirmish site, including a statement of
28 public benefit and the need for the work proposed; and

29 (2) demonstration by the applicant of administrative capabilities
30 to carry out the proposed plans required pursuant to paragraph (1)
31 of this subsection.

32 d. (1) Within 90 days after the date of the enactment of this act,
33 and notwithstanding the provisions of the "Administrative
34 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the
35 contrary, the Department of State shall adopt, immediately upon
36 filing proper notice with the Office of Administrative Law, the rules
37 and regulations prepared by the department necessary to establish
38 and implement the grant program.

39 (2) The rules and regulations adopted pursuant to paragraph (1)
40 of this subsection shall be in effect for a period not to exceed one
41 year after the date of the filing. These rules and regulations shall
42 thereafter be adopted, amended, or readopted by the Department of
43 State in accordance with the requirements of the "Administrative
44 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

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46 2. There is appropriated \$50,000,000 from the General Fund to
47 the Department of State to implement the provisions of section 1 of
48 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this act).

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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6 This bill would require the Department of State to establish a
7 program to provide grants to local government units and qualifying
8 tax exempt not for profit entities to support the preservation,
9 expansion, and management of Revolutionary War Battlefields,
10 encampments, and skirmish sites in New Jersey that are endangered
11 due to development. Under the bill, the department is to develop
12 criteria for evaluating applications and award grants to applicants
13 who submit specific plans and objectives for the preservation,
14 expansion, or management of Revolutionary War Battlefields,
15 encampments, or skirmish sites in New Jersey that are endangered
16 due to development.

17 The bill also appropriates \$50 million from the General Fund to
18 the Department of State to implement the provisions of the bill.

19 According to the United States' National Park Service, New
20 Jersey hosted more battles and skirmishes during the American
21 Revolution than any of the other 13 original states. New Jersey's
22 Revolutionary War heritage is a source of pride for its residents and
23 the nation. The State's Revolutionary War Era battlefields,
24 encampments, and skirmish sites deserve every protection possible
25 so that future generations may continue to celebrate and gain
26 inspiration from our history.