AN ACT

1 Establishing the COVID-19 Mitigation Grant Program for small businesses.
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3 Section 1. Short title.
4 This act shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19 Mitigation Grants for Small Businesses Act.
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6 Section 2. Definitions.
7 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:
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9 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic Development of the Commonwealth.
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11 "Disaster emergency." The proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.
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13 "Grant." A grant awarded under the COVID-19 Mitigation Grant
Program.

"Program." The COVID-19 Mitigation Grant Program.

"Secretary." The Secretary of Community and Economic Development of the Commonwealth.

"Small business." A retail or personal service employer within this Commonwealth:

(1) whose gross annual receipts for the prior fiscal year did not exceed $1,500,000; or

(2) that employs no more than 10 full-time employees.

Section 3. COVID-19 Mitigation Grant Program.

(a) Establishment.--The COVID-19 Mitigation Grant Program is established in the department to provide grants to small businesses for mitigation efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

(b) Use of grant money.--Grant money awarded by the department shall be used by the small business to follow health and safety guidelines established by the department or the Department of Health and to implement COVID-19 mitigation efforts to protect its employees and customers, including all of the following:

(1) Contactless payment methods.

(2) Protective barriers.

(3) Personal protective equipment for employees and customers.

(4) Other mitigation efforts approved by the department.

(c) Amount.--Subject to the availability of program funds, a small business that meets the requirements under section 4 may be awarded a one-time grant not exceed $15,000.

Section 4. Eligibility.

A small business is eligible for a grant if it meets the
following requirements:

(1) has been financially harmed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(2) any of the following:

(i) is deemed life-sustaining by the Commonwealth;
(ii) is granted a waiver to operate during the disaster emergency; or
(iii) operates in a county that has been designated by executive action to be in the Yellow Phase or Green Phase.

Section 5. Application.

(a) Development of application.--The department shall create and implement an application for small businesses applying for the program.

(b) Contents of application.--The application shall include all of the following information:

(1) The name, address and contact information for the small business.
(2) The amount of grant money requested.
(3) The intended use of the grant money and any mitigation efforts the small business plans to undertake.
(5) Any other information deemed necessary by the department.

Section 6. Public notice.

The department shall provide information regarding the application for the program and award of grant money on its publicly accessible Internet website.

Section 7. Appropriation.
The sum of $50,000,000 is appropriated from the CARES Act Fund to the department to administer the program.

Section 8. Reporting.
Following the termination or expiration of the disaster emergency, the department shall post on its publicly accessible Internet website the recipients of grants and the amount of grant money awarded.

Section 9. Guidelines.
The department may implement guidelines for the administration of this act.

Section 10. Expiration.
This act shall expire three months after the disaster emergency has been rescinded.

Section 11. Effective date.
This act shall take effect in 30 days.