AN ACT

Providing for COVID-19 disaster emergency business interruption grants.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Business Interruption Grant Act.

Section 2. Definitions.

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:

"BUSINESS." Any business, industry or trade operating with a physical location in this Commonwealth, regardless of whether that physical location is open to the public.

"COVID-19 disaster emergency." The proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
published at 50 Pa.B. PA.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

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

"Grant." A grant awarded under the COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Business Interruption Grant Program established under section 3(a).

Section 3. COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Business Interruption Grant Program.

(a) Establishment.--The COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Business Interruption Grant Program is established within the department to provide funding for the continuing operation of businesses during and after the COVID-19 disaster emergency. The department shall award, to the extent that money is appropriated to the department for the purpose, grants to eligible businesses as provided under this section.

(b) Eligibility.--A business shall be eligible for a grant under this section if:

(1) The business has submitted an insurance claim under a business interruption insurance policy and the insurance claim was denied prior to applying for a grant.

(2) The business demonstrates in its application that the business has been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 disaster emergency.

(3) THE BUSINESS IS BASED IN THIS COMMONWEALTH AND EMPLOYS NOT MORE THAN 200 INDIVIDUALS.

(c) Grant amount.--A grant may not exceed the amount of the insurance claim submitted by the business under subsection (b) (1).

(d) Application.--A business may apply for a grant for the
duration of the COVID-19 disaster emergency and for 60 days after the COVID-19 disaster emergency is terminated by executive order, proclamation or operation of law. The application shall be in a form and manner determined by the department.

(e) Conditions.--If a business receives a grant, the business must remain open and not lay off any employees for the duration of the COVID-19 disaster emergency. If a business that receives a grant does not comply with this subsection, the business shall repay the amount of the grant plus 10%.

(f) Rules and regulations.--The department shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.


Section 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.