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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1211 Session of  
2023

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INTRODUCED BY CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, MADDEN, KINSEY, GIRAL, FLEMING,  
SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, CURRY, CIRESI, CERRATO AND PARKER,  
MAY 19, 2023

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, MAY 19, 2023

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Youth Summer Employment Grant Program and the  
2 Youth Summer Employment Fund; and authorizing regulations.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Youth Summer  
7 Employment Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Department." The Department of Labor and Industry of the  
13 Commonwealth.

14 "Eligible employer." An employer that meets the  
15 qualifications under section 4(c).

16 "Fund." The Youth Summer Employment Fund established under  
17 section 6.

1 "Grant." A grant awarded to an eligible employer under the  
2 program.

3 "Historically disadvantaged community." An area,  
4 municipality or part of a municipality where at least 20% of the  
5 population has been under the Federal Poverty Income Level as  
6 defined by the United States Department of Health and Human  
7 Services for at least 30 years.

8 "Program." The Youth Summer Employment Grant Program  
9 established under section 3.

10 "Youth." An individual between 15 and 18 years of age who is  
11 a resident of this Commonwealth.

12 Section 3. Youth Summer Employment Grant Program.

13 The Youth Summer Employment Grant Program is established as a  
14 program within the department to award grants to eligible  
15 employers to develop summer youth employment opportunities.

16 Section 4. Administration of program.

17 (a) Administration.--The department shall administer the  
18 program.

19 (b) Application.--An eligible employer shall submit an  
20 application, in a manner and form prescribed by the department,  
21 for a grant.

22 (c) Eligible employers.--An employer, including for-profit  
23 companies, nonprofit organizations and municipalities, that  
24 meets the following qualifications:

25 (1) Employs a youth employee for at least eight weeks  
26 during the summer between the spring school term and the fall  
27 school term.

28 (2) Adheres to all applicable Federal and State child  
29 labor laws and other applicable labor laws.

30 (3) Provides a work experience of an educational

1 experience, or some combination of both.

2 (4) Pays the youth employee a stipend or a salary that  
3 equals the rate of the minimum wage established by the act of  
4 January 17, 1968 (P.L.11, No.5), known as The Minimum Wage  
5 Act of 1968, or \$15 per hour, whichever is greater.

6 (5) Any other qualification that the department may deem  
7 as necessary to enforce or administer the program.

8 (d) Regulations.--The department shall promulgate rules and  
9 regulations necessary for the implementation and administration  
10 of this act.

11 (e) Advertisement.--The department shall create a publicly  
12 accessible Internet website that advertises the program to  
13 employers and annually send letters to schools of secondary  
14 education located in this Commonwealth to inform guidance  
15 counselors and other administrators of the available youth  
16 summer employment under this act.

17 Section 5. Employment grants.

18 (a) Grants.--The department shall award grants under the  
19 program to eligible employers who employ youths during the  
20 summer between the spring school term and the fall school term.

21 (b) Grant amount.--The department shall award grants under  
22 the program as follows:

23 (1) An eligible employer that employs between 10 and 20  
24 youth employees shall receive a grant of \$5,000.

25 (2) An eligible employer that employs more than 20 youth  
26 employees shall receive a grant of \$10,000.

27 (3) If 50% of an eligible employer's youth employees  
28 live in a historically disadvantaged community, the eligible  
29 employer shall receive an additional grant of \$5,000.

30 Section 6. Youth Summer Employment Fund.

1       (a) Establishment.--The Youth Summer Employment Fund is  
2 established as a nonlapsing fund in the State Treasury.

3       (b) Appropriation.--Funds shall be appropriated to the  
4 department for the administration of the program and for grants  
5 provided under this act.

6 Section 7. Effective date.

7       This act shall take effect in 60 days.