

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 223

Short Title: Durham/Grants to Businesses & Nonprofits. (Local)

Sponsors: Senators Woodard and Murdock (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 11, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF DURHAM TO MAKE GRANTS TO BUSINESSES
3 AND PRIVATE OR PUBLIC NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE THE
4 PUBLIC INTEREST AND WELL-BEING OF THE DURHAM COMMUNITY AND ITS
5 CITIZENS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Chapter VII of the Charter of the City of Durham, being Chapter 671
8 of the Session Laws of 1975, as amended, is amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

9 "Sec. 128. Grants program.

10 The City may use public funds to make grants to businesses and private or public nonprofit
11 organizations only if those funds are used by the grant recipient to serve the public interest and
12 well-being of the Durham community and its citizens. The City shall develop policies and
13 procedures for the evaluation of applications, disbursement of grants, and oversight of grantees
14 which shall, at a minimum, include the following:

15 (1) The grantee is engaged in a business or activity that is an essential service. For
16 purposes of this section, the term "essential service" includes:

17 a. Child care.

18 b. Food and agriculture services.

19 c. Critical retail, including grocery, hardware, and mechanics.

20 d. Critical trade, including construction, electricians, and plumbers.

21 e. Transportation.

22 f. Personal care services, including beauty salons and barber shops.

23 g. Social services provided by nongovernmental organizations.

24 (2) The grantee has continuously provided the essential service for which the
25 grant is being sought for at least two years.

26 (3) The grantee submits to the City a written statement made under oath stating
27 that the grantee does not have any overdue tax debts, as defined by
28 G.S. 105-243.1, at the State or local level.

29 (4) The City ensures that the purpose of each grant is specified to the grantee, and
30 that the grantee agrees to any periodic reporting requirements established by
31 the City.

32 (5) The City ensures that the grant funds are spent in accordance with the purposes
33 for which they were granted."

34 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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