ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 489—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Requires the establishment of and funds a pilot program relating to federal grants. (BDR S-1109)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [fomitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to federal grants; establishing a fund to provide money for matching federal grants; allowing this State to seek and obtain federal money for certain community projects; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law creates the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration to assist state agencies with identifying and obtaining federal grants. (NRS 232.213, 232.224) Section 1 of this bill creates the Federal Grant Matching Fund as part of a pilot program to provide funds to state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations as matching funds for federal grants. Section 2 of this bill requires the Administrator of the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management to create and administer a pilot program that allows state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to request grants from the Federal Grant Matching Fund for the purpose of satisfying the matching requirement for a federal grant. Section 3 of this bill establishes certain criteria for prioritizing grants. Section 4 of this bill establishes standards of eligibility for receiving a grant. Section 5 of this bill requires that on or before January 31, 2021, the Administrator must provide a summary report on the pilot program to the Legislature. **Section 6** of this bill makes an appropriation to the Federal Grant Matching Fund to provide state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations grants of money for matching federal grants under the pilot program.

WHEREAS, Nevada has long received a disproportionately low rate of federal grant funding per capita and as a result, has less





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money to pay for programs, projects and services that increase the quality of life and opportunities for Nevadans and facilitate growth; and

WHEREAS, Federal grant funds are critical to helping pay for community assets, such as infrastructure, affordable housing, health care centers and workforce development programs; and

WHEREAS, Many federal grants require the recipient state to share in the cost of delivering a program or project by matching a share of federal grant dollars with cash or in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, The inability to meet such matching requirements is often cited by State staff as a key reason for not pursuing or securing federal grant opportunities; now, therefore,

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a special fund which shall be designated as the Federal Grant Matching Fund.

- 1. The Federal Grant Matching Fund shall hold appropriated money in trust for the exclusive purpose of providing grants to state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to satisfy federal grant matching requirements.
- 2. The State Treasurer must review and approve recommendations made by the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration for grant awards greater than \$100,000.
- **Sec. 2.** The Administrator of the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration shall:
- 1. Consult with grant professionals employed by the State and other grant experts to create and administer a pilot program that allows state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to request grants from the Federal Grant Matching Fund for the purpose of satisfying the matching funds requirement for a federal grant.
 - 2. Develop a process:
- (a) For state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to make a request for a grant for matching funds;
- (b) And criteria for the review, award and notification of grant requests;
 - (c) For the payment or transfer of grant money; and
 - (d) For reporting on the use and implementation of grant awards.



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- 1 3. Administer all applicable aspects of the process set forth in subsection 2.
 - **Sec. 3.** The pilot program created pursuant to section 2 of this act must:
 - Provide a clear, streamlined and timely process for state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to apply for matching funds for a specific federal grant and receive a prompt decision from the Administrator of the Office of Grant Procurement. Coordination and Management of the Department Administration.
 - 2. Prioritize grants that:

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- (a) Add services to constituents;
- (b) Align with the documented priorities of the state agency, local government or nonprofit organization;
 - (c) Address the needs of underserved or frontier communities;
- (d) Help state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations build capacity for future grant opportunities; and
- (e) Enable a state agency, local government or nonprofit organization to sustain the grant in its next budget.
- **Sec. 4.** To be eligible for a grant from the Federal Grant Matching Fund created by section 1 of this act, a state agency, local government or nonprofit organization must:
 - Demonstrate that:
- (a) It is pursuing a bona fide federal grant for which it is eligible;
- (b) It attempted but was unable to secure match funding through its own budget or in-kind resources; and
 - (c) The grant is within its scope.
- Apply for a grant in the form and process prescribed by the Administrator of the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration.
- Adhere to other requirements deemed appropriate for the pilot program created pursuant to section 2 of this act by the Administrator.
- **Sec. 5.** On or before January 31, 2021, the Administrator of the Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management of the Department of Administration shall submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature a summary report for the preceding 18 months detailing:
- The number and purpose of grant requests received from state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations;
- The number and purpose of grant requests approved and the amount of money awarded from the Federal Grant Matching Fund created by section 1 of this act to each approved grant request applicant; and





3. The amount of federal grant funding received by each federal grant applicant as a result of receiving money from the Federal Grant Matching Fund.

Sec. 6. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Federal Grant Matching Fund created by section 1 of this act the sum of \$5,000,000 for the purpose of providing grants to state agencies, local governments and nonprofit organizations to satisfy federal grant matching requirements as administered through

the pilot program pursuant to section 2 of this act.

Sec. 7. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by section 6 of this act must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2021, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after September 17, 2021, by either the entity to which the appropriation is made or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 17, 2021.

Sec. 8. 1. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

2. Sections 1 to 5, inclusive, of this act expire by limitation on June 30, 2021.





