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H.B. 169
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for H.B. 169's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cutrona and Swearingen

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The bill appropriates \$100.0 million in FY 2021 under the Coronavirus Relief Fund (Fund 5CV1) line item 195561, Bar and Restaurant Assistance, for the Development Services Agency (DSA) to provide grants to bars and restaurants that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The bill appropriates \$25.0 million in FY 2021 under Fund 5CV1 line item 195562, Lodging Industry Grants, for DSA to provide grants for lodging industry businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The bill appropriates \$10.0 million in FY 2021 under Fund 5CV1 line item 195631, Coronavirus Relief – Small Business Grant, for DSA to provide grants to valid liquor permit holders who are authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption.

Detailed Analysis

In total, the bill appropriates \$135.0 million in FY 2021 to the Development Services Agency (DSA) to provide grants to bars, restaurants, and lodging industry businesses that have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. These appropriations are supported by funds received by the state under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These funds are deposited into the Coronavirus Relief Fund (Fund 5CV1).

Of the \$135.0 million in funding provided by the bill, \$100.0 million is appropriated under Fund 5CV1 line item 195561, Bar and Restaurant Assistance, for DSA to provide grants to bars and restaurants. The \$25.0 million appropriated under Fund 5CV1 line item 195562, Lodging Industry Grants, will be used by DSA to provide grants for lodging industry businesses. Under each of these grant programs, awards are to be distributed in amounts of \$10,000, \$20,000, and \$30,000. Grants for bars and restaurants are to be awarded based on factors such as

demonstrated loss of revenue and the number of employees that eligible bars and restaurants employ. Grants for lodging industry businesses are to be awarded based on factors such as demonstrated loss of revenue and occupancy rates.

The remaining \$10.0 million in funding is appropriated under Fund 5CV1 line item 195631, Coronavirus Relief – Small Business Grant. It will be used by DSA to provide grants of \$2,000 each to any valid liquor permit holder who is authorized to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption under R.C. Chapter 4303. In effect, this is a continuation of the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Program administered by DSA, for which the Controlling Board previously approved \$38.7 million in funding in October 2020. The application period for that round of funding closed on January 31, 2021. Under that round of funding, a little over 11,500 liquor permit holders applied for approximately \$29.0 million in grants of \$2,500 each. The bill appropriates the remaining amount previously approved by the Controlling Board, but limits each grant to \$2,000. It does specify, however, that liquor permit holders who received grants under the Bar and Restaurant Assistance Program are each eligible to receive an additional grant funded by the appropriation in the bill.