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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 644  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Frazier

Logan Briggs, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Creates the Ohio Disability Home Expense Grant Program.
- Provides grant money to qualifying applicants, a qualifying applicant's spouse or dependent, or a qualifying nonprofit corporation.
- Reserves at least \$6 million for grants to qualifying applicants for the fiscal year.
- Abolishes the Ohio Disability Home Expense Grant Program on July 1, 2024.
- Appropriates \$25 million in FY 2023 and FY 2024 for the program.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Ohio Disability Home Expense Grant Program

This bill directs the Department of Aging to create and operate the Ohio Disability Home Expense Grant Program. The Department must reserve and expend at least \$6 million in each fiscal year for grants through this program. The program provides grants of up to \$5,000 to qualifying applicants for disability-related home expenses. This program is temporary, ending on July 1, 2024.

#### Grants to qualifying applicants

Qualified applicants are individuals, or their spouse or dependent, who are over 59 years of age, are permanently disabled and require assistance for at least one activity of daily living, or who have been diagnosed with as having amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis. The Department of Aging will prescribe the manner by which applicants apply for these grants.

Upon receipt of an application, the Department is required to approve the application if all of the following apply:

1. Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of grants approved for the fiscal year to exceed \$25 million;
2. The Department has not previously approved a grant application made by the same qualifying applicant.
3. The grant application does not relate to a transaction between a qualifying applicant and a member of the qualifying applicant's family or between a pass-through entity and a person that holds, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest in the entity.

After the Department either approves or rejects the application, the Department must provide notice to the qualifying applicant by mail.

### **Grants to qualifying nonprofit corporations**

Grants may be provided to qualifying nonprofit corporations. These include nonprofit corporations in this state that have an established record serving persons with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis and their families. These corporations themselves will then disperse the funds as grants to qualified applicants, under guidelines established by the Department of Aging. These grants may not exceed \$5,000 and may not be given to applicants who have already received a grant under the program.

Upon receipt of an application, the Department may approve the application if all of the following apply:

1. The qualifying nonprofit corporation agrees to use the grant exclusively as described in the bill.
2. Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of grants approved under this section for the fiscal year to exceed \$25 million.
3. Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of the grants approved for the qualifying nonprofit corporation for the fiscal year to exceed \$500,000.
4. The qualifying nonprofit corporation agrees that prior to providing any grant to a qualified applicant, the qualifying nonprofit corporation verifies with the Department that the qualified applicant has not received a grant under the Disability Home Expense Grant Program.
5. Any other condition the Department considers necessary for granting the qualifying nonprofit corporation a grant.

After the Department either approves or rejects the application, the Department must provide notice to the qualifying nonprofit corporation by mail. If a qualifying nonprofit corporation receives a grant from the Department, the qualifying nonprofit corporation must establish an application process to provide grants to qualifying applicants. The qualifying nonprofit corporation may approve an application if all of the following apply:

1. The qualifying nonprofit corporation has not previously approved a grant application made by the same qualifying applicant.

2. The grant application does not relate to a transaction between a qualifying applicant and a member of the qualifying applicant's family or between a pass-through entity and a person that holds, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest in the entity.
3. The qualifying nonprofit corporation has verified with the Department that the qualifying applicant has not received a grant under the Disability Home Expense Grant Program.

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-11-2022

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