

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS45359-MHa-85A

Short Title: Expand Fire Grant Fund.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators deViere, Woodard, and Lowe (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA  
3 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND FOR TARGETED RELIEF TO FIRE  
4 DEPARTMENTS LOCATED IN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED AREAS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
7 Insurance the sum of five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021  
8 fiscal year to be allocated to the Volunteer Fire Department Fund created by G.S. 58-87-1. The  
9 Department shall account separately for the funds provided by this act to the Fund.

10 **SECTION 2.** The procedures and requirements set forth in G.S. 58-87-1 apply to  
11 grants made using the funds appropriated by this act with the following alterations:

- 12 (1) Grants shall be limited to counties designated as development tier one, as  
13 defined in G.S. 143B-437.08, according to the most recent annual ranking.
- 14 (2) The applicant shall match the grant as follows:
- 15 a. Fire departments with an annual budget of seventy-five thousand  
16 dollars (\$75,000) or greater shall provide a match of one dollar (\$1.00)  
17 of non-State funds for each one dollar (\$1.00) of grant funds.
- 18 b. Fire departments with an annual budget of greater than fifty thousand  
19 dollars (\$50,000) but less than seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000)  
20 shall provide a match of one dollar (\$1.00) of non-State funds for every  
21 five dollars (\$5.00) of grant funds.
- 22 c. No match shall be required for fire departments with an annual budget  
23 of less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).
- 24 (3) The maximum grant amount shall be fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

25 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.

