

Amendment to SB 132-FN

1 Amend RSA 12-O:53 as inserted by section 2 of Part I of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2  
3 12-O:53 COVID-19 Micro Enterprise Relief Fund.

4 I. There is established in the office of the state treasurer a fund to be known as the COVID-  
5 19 micro enterprise relief fund. Notwithstanding RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47, RSA 21-P:43, or any other law  
6 to the contrary, to the extent permissible under federal law \$1 of any federal funds received by the  
7 state in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency shall be deposited into the fund,  
8 provided that at no time shall the balance of the fund exceed \$1 in any fiscal year.

9 II. Funds shall be disbursed at the discretion of the commissioner to the 10 New Hampshire  
10 regional economic development corporations to be awarded to local or regional micro enterprises.  
11 Each regional development corporation shall receive up to \$1. Each regional development economic  
12 council shall be authorized to assess an administrative fee up to 10 percent of the funds received  
13 through the state to manage this grant program. Any regional economic development corporation  
14 that does not award all of the funds received in grants to local micro enterprises shall return the  
15 funds to micro enterprise relief fund at the department of business and economic affairs for  
16 redistribution at the discretion of the commissioner.

17 III. With each award, an agreement for technical assistance shall be put in place between  
18 the regional development corporation, the New Hampshire small business development center, and  
19 the micro enterprise to support the implementation of the funds. 18 months after the  
20 implementation of the program, the regional economic development councils will prepare and submit  
21 reports to the commissioner, that include the number of grants and the amounts, and the use of each  
22 grant by the recipient. The commissioner shall compile these reports and submit a compiled report  
23 to the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, the house clerk, the senate  
24 clerk, the state library, and the governor.

25 IV. Regional economic development corporations shall award one-time grants of up to \$1 to  
26 support one or more areas of need, including development of e-commerce capabilities, upgrading  
27 business practices, or maintaining storefront presence. The regional economic development  
28 corporations shall ensure micro enterprises awarded grants pursuant to this subdivision are  
29 provided such assistance as may be necessary to support implementation of any grants awarded.

30 V. For purposes of this subdivision, "micro enterprise" shall mean an entity with 10 or fewer  
31 employees, including any proprietor, that has been in business prior to March 13, 2020, when the  
32 governor signed the first declaration of a state of emergency due to COVID-19 and that has

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1 demonstrated a financial impact during the COVID-19 public health emergency, such as temporary  
2 closure, reduction in workforce, or loss of revenue of 50 percent or greater when compared to the  
3 same time period during the previous year. Financial statements demonstrating losses, closures, or  
4 reduction in workforce shall be supplied as part of the application process.

5  
6 Amend RSA 19-A:15 as inserted by section 5 of Part III of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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8       19-A:15 Save Our Granite Stages Fund. There is hereby established the save our granite stages  
9 fund, which shall be appropriated for fiscal year 2022 to the New Hampshire state council on the  
10 arts for the purpose of providing grants to both non-profit and for-profit live venues that did not  
11 receive a grant from the federal Shuttered Venue Operators (SVO) program, which was established  
12 by Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits and Venues Act (P.L. 116-260). The fund  
13 shall be nonlapsing and kept separate and distinct from all other funds. Notwithstanding any other  
14 provision of law, \$1 of any discretionary federal funds received by the state in response to the  
15 COVID-19 public health emergency shall be deposited into the fund. In addition to state  
16 appropriations, the council may accept grants, gifts, and donations for deposit in the fund.