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H.484

First: After Sec. ____, by adding a Sec. ____ to read as follows:

Sec. ____. 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 183, Sec. 51a is amended to read:

Sec. 51a. COVID-19-RELATED PAID LEAVE GRANT PROGRAM

(a) Establishment and appropriation.

(1) There is established in the Department of Financial Regulation the COVID-19-Related Paid Leave Grant Program to administer and award grants to employers to reimburse the cost of providing COVID-19-related paid leave to employees as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

(2) The sum of ~~\$15,180,000.00~~ \$5,000,000.00 is appropriated from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds to the Department of Financial Regulation for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 for the provision of grants to reimburse employers for the cost of providing COVID-19-related paid leave. ~~Not more than seven percent of the amount appropriated pursuant to this subdivision may be used for expenses related to Program administration and outreach.~~

* * *

(c) Grant program.

* * *

(3)(A) Employers may submit applications for grants during the period beginning on October 1, 2022 and ending on September 30, 2023 and may

1 submit an application not more than once each calendar quarter during that
2 period. Grant applications shall be submitted for paid leave provided during
3 the preceding calendar quarter and, subject to subdivision (B) of this
4 subdivision (3), for calendar quarters in the program period prior to the
5 preceding calendar quarter.

6 (B) An employer shall be permitted to request grant funds for costs
7 related to COVID-19-related paid leave described in subsection (e) of this
8 section in a calendar quarter prior to the preceding calendar quarter if:

9 (i) the employer has not already received grant funds in relation to
10 the COVID-19-related leave; and

11 (ii) the costs of the COVID-19-related leave are eligible for a
12 grant pursuant to the provisions of this section and any applicable federal
13 requirements.

14 (4) An employer may combine grant funds with funding from other
15 sources but shall not use grant funds from multiple sources for the same
16 instance of paid leave provided to its employees for COVID-19-related
17 reasons. As used in this subdivision, an “instance” means a calendar day in
18 which the employee was absent from work for a COVID-19-related reason.

19 * * *

20 (6) Grants shall be awarded to eligible employers on a first-come, first-
21 served basis, subject to available funding.

- 1 Sec. __. EFFECTIVE DATES
- 2 (x) Sec. __ shall take effect on passage.

DRAFT