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H.140

Introduced by Representatives Williams of Barre City, Andriano of Orwell,
Carroll of Bennington, Krasnow of South Burlington, Lalley of
Shelburne, Masland of Thetford, McGill of Bridport, Morris of
Springfield, Nugent of South Burlington, Priestley of Bradford,
Rachelson of Burlington, Sims of Craftsbury, Stebbins of
Burlington, and Torre of Moretown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Executive; grants; funding; accessibility

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Secretary of Administration to make various changes to the State's Policy for
Grant Issuance and Monitoring. This bill also requires the Secretary of Digital
Services to develop a statewide database that is required to list all State-funded
grants available to municipalities.

An act relating to requirements for State-funded grants

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. POLICY FOR GRANT ISSUANCE AND MONITORING;

3 BULLETIN 5; SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION; GRANT
4 APPLICATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

5 (a) Forms. On or before October 15, 2023, the Secretary of Administration
6 shall develop a standard grant application form, grant agreement, and reporting
7 forms of reasonable length that are written in accessible language for all State-
8 funded grants to municipalities, nonprofit corporations, for-profit entities, and
9 individuals. The documents shall minimize the steps to agree to grant
10 compliance measures and shall only include metrics and performance measures
11 that are suitable for the type of entity applying for a grant.

12 (b) Required use.

13 (1) On or before July 1, 2024, the Secretary of Administration shall
14 include a requirement in Administrative Bulletin 5, Policy for Grant Issuance
15 and Monitoring, that:

16 (A) the grant application form, grant agreement, and reporting forms
17 described in subsection (a) of this section be used for all State-funded grants to
18 municipalities, nonprofit corporations, for-profit entities, and individuals; and

19 (B) a process for how the forms and agreements described in
20 subsection (a) of this section may be integrated and used with any agency-
21 specific grant documentation.

1 (2) The documents described in subdivision (1)(A) of this subsection
2 shall be made available on one publicly accessible website and downloadable
3 in commonly used digital formats.

4 (c) Indirect costs. On or before July 1, 2024, the Secretary of
5 Administration shall include in Administrative Bulletin 5, Policy for Grant
6 Issuance and Monitoring, a uniform formula and approval process for use in all
7 State-funded grants for nonprofit corporations to use a higher indirect rate than
8 the standard 10 percent de minimis rate.

9 (d) Reports.

10 (1) On or before January 15, 2024, the Secretary of Administration shall
11 submit a report to the House Committee on Government Operations and
12 Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Government Operations with an
13 update on and implementation schedule for the forms required by subsection
14 (a) of this section.

15 (2) On or before October 1, 2024, the Secretary of Administration shall
16 submit a report to the House Committee on Government Operations and
17 Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Government Operations on the
18 completion of the implementation of the new grant forms described in
19 subsection (a) of this section and the status of compliance by all State entities.

1 Sec. 2. STATE-FUNDED GRANTS; MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAMS;
2 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY

3 (a) On or before July 1, 2024, the Secretary of Digital Services shall
4 develop a publicly accessible statewide database for all State-funded grants
5 available to municipalities.

6 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2024, the State shall require that any State-funded
7 grant program available to municipalities is included in the database described
8 in subsection (a) of this section.

9 (c) In fiscal year 2024, the Agency of Digital Services shall appropriate
10 \$35,000.00 in general funds for the work described in subsection (a) of this
11 section.

12 (d) On or before July 1, 2024, the Secretary of Digital Services shall submit
13 a report to the House Committee on Government Operations and Military
14 Affairs and the Senate Committee on Government Operations on the
15 completion of the database described in subsection (a) of this section.

16 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.