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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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April 17, 2020

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47 and Executive Order 2020-04, Governor Sununu has authorized the Department of Justice to accept and expend a grant **retroactive** to January 20, 2020, in the amount of \$3,454,070, from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus, from the date of the Governor's approval through June 30, 2021. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in account #02-20-20-201510-19100000, Department of Justice, Grants Administration, entitled 'CESF' as follows:

<u>Class/Expense</u>	<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Current SFY 2020 Budget</u>	<u>Increase Amount</u>	<u>Revised SFY 2020 Budget</u>
072-509073	GRANTS FEDERAL	\$0	\$1,869,213	\$1,869,213
085-588523	INTER AGENCY TRANSFER OUT OF FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$1,269,988	\$1,269,988
085-588546	INTER AGENCY TRANSFER OUT OF FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$215,000	\$215,000
085-588577	INTER AGENCY TRANSFER OUT OF FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$99,868	\$99,868
102-500731	CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVICES	\$0	\$1	\$1
Total		\$0	\$3,454,070	\$3,454,070
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<u>Source of Funds</u>				
000-400338	FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$3,454,070	\$3,454,070

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EXPLANATION

The Department of Justice is the State Administering Agency (SAA) for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (Byrne JAG). The Federal Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations, signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, included \$850 million to recipients of the Byrne JAG grant to "prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus". New Hampshire's share of that funding is \$3,454,070. The award is retroactive to January 20, 2020 with an end date of January 31, 2022.

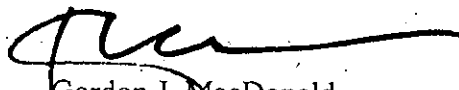
The Department of Justice mobilized to create an application to ensure that the state received its award in a timely manner so first responders in New Hampshire would be able to access the funding as soon as possible. Out of approximately 1,200 possible applicants in the country, the Department of Justice was the first to receive the award. The Department's Grants Management Unit will administer the funds and retain a small portion of the award for administrative purposes.

The Department of Justice created a Request for Grant Applications (GFA) specifically for New Hampshire first responders. The GFA announcement was sent out by the Joint Information Center (JIC) to first responder agencies throughout the state. As the full scope of the pandemic on the state is not clear, the GFA is broad, with no deadline for applications, so agencies can apply depending on the needs of their community. The budget listed in the Requested Action is at an estimated level. The Grants Management Unit personnel will review each application received for eligibility as pertains to meeting the "prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus" requirement. I will have ultimate approval of all applications.

In the event federal funds become no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon J. MacDonald
Attorney General