

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Emergency Ordinance - Administrative Code - COVID-19 Emergency Family Relief Fund]

Emergency Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to establish the COVID-19 Emergency Family Relief Fund.

Existing Law

Chapter 10, Article XIII of the Administrative Code establishes a number of funds that provide for the acceptance and expenditure of monies and goods for specified purposes.

Administrative Code Section 10.100-1 sets forth eight types of fund categories. This section specifies that for a category eight fund, the City will automatically appropriate available monies for expenditures consistent with the purpose and use of the fund, any interest earned on principal shall be credited to the fund, and any unexpended or unencumbered monies shall carry forward to the next fiscal year.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposed ordinance would create the COVID-19 Emergency Family Relief Fund ("Fund"), to provide financial support to San Francisco families with children or dependents who are 18 years old or younger impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This Fund would seek to provide financial assistance of at least \$500 a month for up to 5,000 San Francisco families.

The proposed ordinance would establish the Fund in Chapter 10, Article XIII of the Administrative Code and would designate it as a category eight fund. The Fund would be able to accept any legally available monies appropriated or donated to the Fund including, but not limited to, funds appropriated by the Board of Supervisors, funding made available from the federal or State governments, and private donations and grants.

The Human Rights Commission would administer the Fund and adopt rules regarding disbursement of the monthly stipends. The Human Rights Commission's rules would incorporate and further develop the following criteria for disbursement:

- the degree to which the family has been directly impacted by the economic hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- whether the family does not qualify for funding or payments provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, or other federal or state assistance programs specific to the COVID-19 pandemic for families or individuals, due to the family's or a family member's citizenship or immigration status, lack of a social security number, or tax return filing history.

Background Information

Charter Section 2.107 authorizes passage of an emergency ordinance in cases of public emergency affecting life, health, or property. On February 25, 2020, Mayor London Breed proclaimed a state of emergency due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. On March 3, 2020, the Board of Supervisors concurred in the Mayor's February 25 Proclamation. Subsequent Mayoral proclamations have confirmed that the state of emergency have had a significant economic impact on local businesses, the Bay Area economy, and employees and their families.

To pass an emergency ordinance, the Board of Supervisors must approve it by a two-thirds supermajority vote. Emergency ordinances become effective upon approval by the Mayor, the expiration of the 10 day period for the Mayor to approve or veto, or the Board of Supervisors' override of the Mayor's veto. Emergency ordinances automatically expire on the 61st day following their effective dates.

The legislative sponsors have separately introduced a non-emergency ordinance that would allow the COVID-19 Emergency Family Relief Fund to continue after this emergency ordinance has expired. See File No. 200340.

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