



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0969, Version: 1

Other/Miscellaneous Request Template (Appointments; ROW; Code Changes; Zoning Action, etc.)

Date Submitted: 8-15-2022

**Requesting Agency: Finance
Division:**

**Subject Matter Expert Name: : Lisana Munoz
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Phone Number:**

Item Title & Description:

(Do not delete the following instructions)

*These appear on the Council meeting agenda. Initially, the requesting agency will enter a 2-3 sentence description. Upon bill filling, the City Attorney's Office should enter the title above the description (the title should be in **bold** font).*

*Both the title and description must be entered between the red "title" and "body" below. Do **not** at any time delete the red "title" or "body" markers from this template.*

A bill for an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 591, Series of 2021, as amended by Ordinance No. 706, Series of 2021, as amended by Ordinance No. 1145, Series of 2021, as amended by Ordinance No. 1192, Series of 2021, as amended by Ordinance No. 374, Series of 2022, to allocate spending in the American Rescue Plan Act Grant Fund for Administration.

Amends Ordinance No. 0591, Series of 2021, as amended by subsequent ordinances, to allocate a total of \$1,000,000 in spending for the Recovery category in the American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) Grant Fund, which will be funded from interest earnings generated by the ARPA program, to provide gift cards, vouchers, and expanded food box distribution to individuals and families in the City to alleviate pressures on those who have experienced food insecurity because of Covid-19 or economic inflation. The Committee approved filing this item at its meeting on 8-16-2022.

Affected Council District(s) or citywide?

Executive Summary with Rationale and Impact:

Detailed description of the item and why we are doing it. This can be a separate attachment.

Ordinance No. 591, Series of 2021, established the American Rescue Plan Act Grant Fund, Fund No. 11011, and accepted the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund award agreement with the US Department of Treasury. While the ordinance accepted the full \$308,048,870 identified in the award agreement, it included provisions requiring that City Council approve spending in the fund through amendments to said Ordinance.

Subsequent ordinances amended Ordinance No. 591 to authorize allocations in the "Revenue Loss," "Recovery" and "Administration" categories. As a result of interest earnings generated by ARPA monies, \$1,000,000 of interest earnings will be allocated to the Recovery spend category, for a total Recovery allocation of \$74,530,000. As of August 2022, cumulative interest earnings from ARPA monies total \$2,277,607.38. Through a previous amendment to Ordinance No. 591, \$1,157,300 of interest earnings had been programmed to the Administration category for various administrative needs associated with the operation of ARPA funding, including public outreach, non-profit assistance and data evaluation services.

This bill requests establishment of \$1,000,000 from interest earnings to the ARPA Recovery category. Funds will be used to assist City of Denver individuals and families who have experienced food insecurity due to an economic impact by COVID-19 and the effects of inflationary pressures by providing gift cards and vouchers and by expanding culturally relevant food box distribution in the fall and winter of 2022. The Department of Human Rights and Community Partnerships, Denver Economic Development & Opportunity, the Department of Public Health and Environment, Denver Human Services and the Office of Children's Affairs will share responsibility for coordinating the distribution of the gift cards and vouchers through community events each agency participates in, which constitutes \$800,000 of the proposed allocation. The food box distribution will occur at three City food distribution events in high need areas, and will primarily involve the Department of Human Rights and Community Partnerships, the Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Mayor's Office. This latter use represents \$200,000 of the allocation.

Address/Location (if applicable):

Legal Description (if applicable):

Denver Revised Municipal Code (D.R.M.C.) Citation (if applicable):

Draft Bill Attached?