AB 2252

State Grants Administrator

THIS BILL

Assembly Bill 2252 creates a State Grants Administrator position inside the Government Operations Agency (GovOps) in order to:

- Work with representatives from state and local government, nonprofit organizations, foundations, institutions of higher learning, and other interested parties on applying for and managing state grants
- Support the establishment of a statewide network of individuals and employees within state government who serve as point of contact for state grant opportunities.
- Develop and maintain information on a website related to new state grant opportunities, grant management best practices, and other resources to support the ability of entities to apply and manage state grants

BACKGROUND

California currently does not have a centralized database to find state grants. Interested parties must wade through complex websites with varying levels of information and contacts. Attempts have been made by to centralize categories of grants, but information is dependent on voluntary reporting from state departments or agencies.¹

The grants website for the federal government, www.grants.gov, is the one-stop-shop for information on all current federal grant opportunities. The searchable system allows eligible entities to find specific grants fitting their

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needs, deadlines, and a streamlined application process. Since most federal grants first touch state government agencies, this system is not as applicable to nonprofits and local agencies.

PURPOSE

Nonprofits rank as the 4th largest industry in California, employing nearly 1 million people and producing more jobs than the construction, finance, or real estate industries. Federal, state and local grants make up half of nonprofit revenue, making this source critical to the success of the industry.

As noted in CalNonprofits' seminal report, *Causes Count: The Economic Power of California's*

Nonprofit Sector, there are notable disparities in the geographic distribution of the revenue and assets that nonprofits receive, especially in rural and underserved communities.

For example, Northern California nonprofits generate \$5,006 in revenue per person, while Southern California nonprofits generate only \$1,727. The study also found that some counties have more than six times the nonprofit revenue per capita than other counties.

By making California grants accessible and transparent, we can ensure all interested entities have a fair shot at state funding.

SUPPORT

California Association of Nonprofits (Sponsor)

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¹data.ca.gov; fundingwizard.arb.ca.gov