

SENATE BILL NO. 744

November 30, 2021, Introduced by Senators CHANG and SCHMIDT and referred to the Committee on Economic and Small Business Development.

A bill to create the Great Lakes maritime grant program to award grants to owners of port facilities; to provide the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; and to create certain funds.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "Great Lakes maritime
2 grant program act".

3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Fund" means the Great Lakes maritime fund created in
5 section 7.

1 (b) "Grant program" means the Great Lakes maritime grant
2 program created in section 5.

3 (c) "Green marine certification" means a certification issued
4 or awarded by a nationally recognized maritime organization
5 identified by the office that ranks or evaluates port facilities on
6 various criteria, including, but not limited to, any of the
7 following:

8 (i) Greenhouse gas and air pollutants.

9 (ii) Spill prevention and stormwater management.

10 (iii) Dry bulk handling and storage.

11 (iv) Community impacts.

12 (v) Environmental leadership.

13 (vi) Waste management.

14 (d) "Office" means the Great Lakes maritime office created in
15 section 5 of the Great Lakes maritime office act.

16 (e) "Port facility" means a structure or improvement to land
17 located alongside navigable water that is used for any of the
18 following:

19 (i) Loading and unloading of cargo from ships, ferries, and
20 other floating vessels.

21 (ii) Supporting the operation of ships, ferries, and other
22 floating vessels.

23 (iii) Handling, storing, packaging, transferring, and moving
24 cargo to other modes of transportation.

25 (iv) Assembling, processing, refining, or improving goods
26 recently received from or before entry into maritime transport.

27 Sec. 5. (1) The Great Lakes maritime grant program is created.
28 The office shall administer the grant program and may award grants
29 of not less than \$10,000.00 or more than \$2,500,000.00 annually to

1 owners of port facilities that submit a grant application on a form
2 prescribed by the office that contains the information required by
3 the office. A grant awarded under this section by the office may be
4 used by the owner of a port facility for public purposes, including
5 1 or more of the following:

6 (a) Achieving or improving green marine certification.

7 (b) Matching federal funding opportunities.

8 (c) Dredging waterways and harbors.

9 (d) Repairing seawalls.

10 (e) Other projects related to port facilities as determined by
11 the office.

12 (2) The office shall give higher priority in awarding a grant
13 to an owner of a port facility that has achieved green marine
14 certification or that has submitted a grant application to fund
15 achieving or improving green marine certification over the owner of
16 a port facility that has not achieved green marine certification.

17 (3) A grant awarded by the office under this section must
18 include a statement defining measurable, annual goals for the grant
19 funding recipient. For the 3 years after a grant is awarded, the
20 office shall annually evaluate the grant funding recipient to
21 determine whether the grant funding recipient is meeting its annual
22 goals as defined in the grant award.

23 Sec. 7. (1) The Great Lakes maritime fund is created in the
24 state treasury.

25 (2) The state treasurer shall deposit money and other assets
26 received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer shall
27 direct the investment of money in the fund and credit interest and
28 earnings from the investments to the fund.

29 (3) Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year does not

1 lapse to the general fund.

2 (4) The office is the administrator of the fund for audits of
3 the fund.

4 (5) The office shall expend money from the fund, on
5 appropriation, only for the purposes described in section 5 and in
6 section 5 of the Great Lakes maritime office act.

7 Enacting section 1. This act does not take effect unless
8 Senate Bill No. 743 of the 101st Legislature is enacted into law.