

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM TO MAKE GRANTS TO BUSINESSES, FOR-PROFIT AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND WELL-BEING OF THE WINSTON-SALEM SALEM COMMUNITY**

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** The Charter of the City of Winston-Salem, being Chapter 232, Private Laws of 1927, as amended by Section 5 of Chapter 1023, Session Laws of 1973 (Second Session 1974) is further amended by adding to Article XVI a new Section 110 to read as follows:

"Sec. 110. Grants program.

The City may use public funds to make grants to businesses, for profit and nonprofit organizations if those funds are used by the grant recipient to serve the public interest and well-being of the Winston-Salem community and its citizens. The City shall develop policies and procedures for the evaluation of applications, disbursement of grants, and oversight of grantees which shall, at a minimum, include the following:

- (1) The grantee is engaged in a business or activity that is an essential service. For purposes of this section, the term "essential service" includes:
  1. Food and agriculture services.
  2. Critical retail, including but not limited to grocery, hardware, and mechanics.
  3. Critical trade, including but not limited to construction, electricians, and plumbers.
- (2) The grantee agrees to provide the essential service for which the grant is being sought for at least five years.
- (3) The grantee submits to the City a written statement made under oath stating that the grantee does not have any overdue tax debts, as defined by G.S. 105-243.1, at the State or local level.
- (4) The City ensures that the purpose of each grant is specified to the grantee, and that the grantee agrees to any periodic reporting requirements established by the City.
- (5) The City ensures that the grant funds are spent in accordance with the purposes for which they were granted. Otherwise the City shall take steps to recapture the funds. This authority shall be in addition to any legislative authority that the City currently has and shall not be to the exclusion thereof. "

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.