



Legislation Text

File #: 2023-0347, Version: 1

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Board of Commissioners - District 6

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): District 6

To Appropriate \$25,000 In American Rescue Plan Grant Funds Assigned to POETA Account 106388.63258.521209.01.06.602778 Reserved For The District 6 Appropriation To DeKalb Pro Bono To Mitigate The Public Health Emergency Created By The COVID-19 Pandemic

Information Contact: Commissioner Edward C. “Ted” Terry

Phone Number: 404-371-4909

PURPOSE:

To approve an appropriation of \$25,000 from the American Rescue Plan grant funds assigned to the account reserved for District 6 to DeKalb Pro Bono for the purpose of providing legal assistance to tenant and landlord eviction disputes for DeKalb County residents and support the program through all ARP eligible uses to mitigate the public health emergency created by the public health pandemic.

NEED/IMPACT:

DeKalb County residents have experienced financial distress, the inability to pay rent and mortgages, evictions, and the loss of basic housing security. COVID-19 has exacerbated an environment of anxiety and financial uncertainty for individuals and families in DeKalb communities. Legal assistance is needed for tenant and landlord evictions and disputes.

DeKalb Pro Bono is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has been incorporated since June 1, 1982 (formerly DeKalb Volunteer Lawyers Foundation) with the sole purpose to connect indigent residents involved in civil legal matters to attorneys who provide them with free legal services. Many of its clients are underemployed and or unemployed due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

FISCAL IMPACT:

To appropriate an amount not to exceed \$25,000 from POETA Account# 106388.63258.521209.01.06.602778 to DeKalb Pro Bono for the purpose of providing legal assistance to tenant and landlord eviction disputes for DeKalb County residents and support the program through all ARP eligible uses to mitigate the public health emergency created by the public health pandemic.

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the resolution and authorize the chief executive officer to execute all necessary documents