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1	AN	ACT relating to economic relief for local communities of the Commonwealth
2	and declar	ring an emergency.
3	Be it enac	ted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:
4	→S	ection 1. KRS 154.14-020 is amended to read as follows:
5	As used ir	this subchapter:
6	(1) "Cał	pinet" means the Cabinet for Economic Development;
7	(2) ["Ce	ommission" means the GRANT Commission established in KRS 154.14-080;
8	(3)_] "Co	ounty population ranking" means the score of each county determined by the
9	cabi	net under KRS 154.14-050(7);
10	<u>(3)</u> [(4)]	"Eligible grant applicant [recipient]" means[a grant applicant that is] a county
11	or o	city governing body, any entity organized in Kentucky providing law
12	<u>enfo</u>	rcement, fire, emergency medical, rescue, water utility, or waste water utility
13	serv	ices to persons domiciled in Kentucky, or <u>a</u> nonprofit charitable organization
14	orga	nized under 26 U.S.C. sec. 501(c)(3) and engaged in public benefit
15	impi	covements;
16	<u>(4)</u> [(5)]	"Eligible project" means a project that:
17	(a)	Meets the requirements for a federal grant offered or administered by a
18		qualifying federal entity that:
19		1. Requires a local match; or
20		2. Is a Delta Regional Authority project that includes language explicitly
21		stating that a local match will make an application more competitive;
22	<u>(b)</u>	Benefits the public or substantially benefits the public and satisfies the
23		evaluation criteria in KRS 154.14-050 and that is initiated on:
24		1. Publicly owned property;
25		2. Property to be acquired, which comes with either a:
26		a. Legally binding letter of intent or option for the sale to an eligible
27		grant <i>applicant</i> [recipient]; or

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1			b. Legally binding sale agreement for the sale to an eligible grant
2			applicant[recipient]; or
3			3. Private property on which a project is located that is in the public
4			interest and for a public purpose and that benefits an eligible
5			community; and
6		<u>(c)</u> [(b)] Requires local matching funds based on the county population ranking
7			as provided in KRS 154.14-050;
8	<u>(5)</u> [((6)]	"Eligible use" means the authorized purpose for which an awarded grant may
9		be	used depending on the source of funds from the <i>federal</i>
10		gove	e <u>rnment</u> [Commonwealth];
11	<u>(6)</u>	''GR	ANT Program" means the Government Resources Accelerating Needed
12		<u>Trar</u>	nsformation Program established in Section 2 of this Act;
13	(7)	<u>''GR</u>	ANT Program fund" means the fund established in Section 5 of this
14		<u>Act</u> ["Interagency Working Group" means the Interagency Working Group on Coal
15		and	Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization established by
16		Pres	idential Executive Order 14008, issued on January 27, 2021];
17	(8)	"Pop	pulation density":
18		(a)	Means the number of persons per square mile of a county;
19		(b)	Is calculated by dividing the total county population by the square miles in the
20			county;
21		(c)	Is determined by using the population estimate from the most recent available
22			five (5) year American Community Survey as published by the United States
23			Census Bureau; and
24		(d)	Is used to rank each county in descending order, with the county having the
25			largest population density receiving a rank of one (1) and the county with the
26			smallest population density receiving a rank of one hundred twenty (120);
27	(9)	<u>''Qu</u>	alifying federal entity" includes the following:

1	(a) The Domestic Policy Council;	
2	(b) The Office of Management and Budget;	
3	(c) The United States Department of Energy;	
4	(d) The United States Department of the Treasure	ury;
5	(e) The United States Department of the Interio	<u>or;</u>
6	(f) The United States Department of Agricultur	<u>re;</u>
7	(g) The United States Department of Commerc	<u>e;</u>
8	(h) The United States Department of Labor;	
9	(i) The United States Department of Health an	d Human Services;
10	(j) The United States Department of Housing of	und Urban Development;
11	(k) The United States Department of Transport	ation;
12	(1) The United States Department of Education	<u>l:</u>
13	(m) The United States Department of Homeland	<u>l Security;</u>
14	(n) The United States Environmental Protection	n Agency;
15	(o) The United States Department of the Army;	
16	(p) The Appalachian Regional Commission;	
17	(q) The Delta Regional Authority;	
18	(r) The National Science Foundation; and	
19	(s) Any federal agency, department, or entity	that is the successor of an entity
20	listed in paragraphs (a) to (r) of this subsec	<u>tion;</u>
21	(10) "Regional project" means an eligible project th	at is proposed by eligible grant
22	applicants[recipients] residing or having a prim	ary business address in different
23	counties in this Commonwealth or by eligible s	grant subrecipients as part of a
24	<u>multistate project</u> who submit a <u>regional</u> [single] g	grant application; and
25	(11) [(10)] "Ten (10) year percentage change in populat	ion":
26	(a) Means the percentage change in population v	vithin a county;
27	(b) Is determined by comparing the populatio	n estimate from the most recent

1			available five (5) year American Community Survey as published by the
2			United States Census Bureau to the same survey ten (10) years prior to the
3			most recent available survey; and
4		(c)	Is used to rank each county in descending order, with the county having the
5			largest positive percentage change in population receiving a rank of one (1)
6			and the county with the largest negative percentage change receiving a rank of
7			one hundred twenty (120).
8		⇒s	ection 2. KRS 154.14-030 is amended to read as follows:
9	(1)	The	Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program[-of
10		202 4	1] is hereby established under the cabinet[, subject to the approval of the
11		com	mission established in KRS 154.14-080]. The cabinet's administration of the
12		prog	gram includes but is not limited to the following:
13		(a)	Creating and making available a standardized grant application and a regional
14			grant application for the obligation of state funds under this subchapter to
15			apply for matching federal funds;
16		(b)	Developing a standardized scoring system pursuant to this section and KRS
17			154.14-050;
18		(c)	Reviewing and processing [the]applications submitted to the cabinet by[the
19			proposed] eligible grant applicants [recipients to the cabinet];
20		(d)	Verifying <i>that</i> [and determining whether a match applicant is] an eligible grant
21			applicant[recipient that] is seeking a federal grant for an eligible project;
22		(e)	Evaluating the project proposed by the match application in accordance with
23			the evaluation criteria set forth in this section and KRS 154.14-050:[.]
24		(f)	Scoring each [match]application pursuant to the scoring system described in
25			KRS 154.14-050;
26		(g)	Ranking each match application:
27			1. To prioritize the greatest return on investment and relative positive

1			impact of the eligible project; and
		2	
2		2.	
3			section and KRS 154.14-050 <u>;[-]</u>
4		(h) <u>Id</u>	lentifying eligible grant[Compiling a list of proposed match] applicants
5		w]	hose eligible project demonstrates a high level of investment potential if a
6		m	atch is provided, as revealed by the evaluation, scoring, and <u>county</u>
7		<u>po</u>	ppulation ranking process described in this section and KRS 154.14-050;
8		(i) Pr	coviding detailed feedback to the <i>eligible grant</i> [match] applicants after the
9		pr	oject evaluation and project score are completed and the [match]application
10		is	approved or denied by the cabinet, unless otherwise prohibited by federal or
11		sta	ate law;
12		(j) O	bligating matching funds to selected eligible grant <u>applicants</u> [recipients];
13		an	<u>1d</u>
14		(k) Co	ompiling the monthly <u>and annual reports[report]</u> to be submitted under
15		K	RS 154.14-070 [; and
16		(l)—Ce	ompiling the annual report to be submitted under KRS 154.14-070].
17	(2)	The cal	binet shall determine the terms, conditions, and requirements of grant
18		<u>awards</u>	from the GRANT Program[application for match funds awarded from the
19		Govern	ment Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of 2024]
20		fund. T	The cabinet may establish procedures and standards for the review and
21		approva	al of <u>the</u> obligation of match funds through the promulgation of
22		adminis	strative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A [. By December 1,
23		2024, tl	he cabinet shall submit recommended legislative changes to the Legislative
24		Researc	th Commission for referral to and for consideration by the Senate Standing
25		Commit	ttee on Appropriations and Revenue and the House Standing Committee on
26		Approp	riations and Revenue or the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and
27		Revenue	e] .

(3) The secretary of the cabinet shall have the authority to hire staff, contract for
 services, expend funds, and operate the normal business activities of the *GRANT Program*[Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of
 2024]. Notwithstanding KRS Chapter 45A, the cabinet may contract with a third
 party for implementation and administration of the program.

6 (4) The <u>GRANT Program</u>[Government Resources Accelerating Needed
7 Transformation Program of 2024 as provided in this subchapter] shall sunset on
8 December 31, 2026, unless authorized by the General Assembly to continue its
9 work for a specified period of time.

10 The Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts and local area development (5)11 districts shall assist eligible grant applicants [recipients] in identifying available 12 federal grant opportunities and preparing federal grant applications and **GRANT** 13 **Program**[Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of 14 2024] applications. [Nothing in]This subsection shall not prevent any public 15 agency or nonprofit entity from assisting eligible grant *applicants*[recipients] in identifying available federal grant opportunities and preparing federal grant 16 17 applications and GRANT Program[Government Resources Accelerating Needed 18 Transformation Program of 2024] applications.

Upon request of the local area development districts, a local public institution in the
 postsecondary education system as defined in KRS 164.001 shall assist the eligible
 grant *applicants*[recipients] in their area by including but not limited to:

22 (a) Identifying opportunities for federal grants;

(b) Rendering supplemental support for federal grant applications on behalf of the
 communities including but not limited to providing data and analysis for the
 federal grant application; or

26 (c) Acting as the contact person for the local public institution to the Kentucky
 27 Council of Area Development Districts and to the area development district in

1			which the local public institution is located and updating the contact person
2			information.
3		→Se	ction 3. KRS 154.14-040 is amended to read as follows:
4	(1)	(a)	To participate in the GRANT Program [Government Resources Accelerating
5			Needed Transformation Program of 2024], eligible grant applicants shall
6			submit either a standardized or a regional grant application to the cabinet for
7			consideration by the commission].
8		(b)	The cabinet shall review applications monthly. Each monthly review shall
9			include all applications submitted but not yet reviewed by the first day of
10			each month.
11		<u>(c)</u>	The cabinet shall provide a preliminary evaluation of <u>each application</u>
12			submitted by the first day of the month[the application] within fourteen (14)
13			<u>calendar</u> [five (5) business] days of <u>the first day of the month</u> [receipt of the
14			application]. As part of the preliminary evaluation, the cabinet shall consider
15			the applicant's eligibility and the application [the following:
16			1. Applicant's eligibility when evaluated against the requirements of the
17			federal grant; and
18			2. Application] completeness when evaluated against the requirements of
19			the federal grant.
20		<u>(d)</u> [(c	The cabinet shall provide a final decision of approval or denial on the
21			application by the last day of the month in which the application was
22			preliminarily reviewed. If an application is denied, the cabinet may provide
23			feedback about any possible corrective action, in which case the applicant
24			may resubmit the application for reconsideration after taking the
25			recommended corrective action [within twenty one (21) calendar days of
26			receipt of the application].
27	(2)	If a	grant application is <i>approved, the recipient</i>

27 (2) If a grant application is <u>approved, the recipient</u>[selected as an eligible match

recipient approved under this subchapter, it] shall comply with any match
 [agreement]and reporting requirements <u>established</u>[deemed necessary] by the
 cabinet to verify that the awarded funds <u>will be or have been expended on[to go</u>
 toward] an eligible use.

- 5 (3) <u>The obligation of funds for an approved project shall not remain obligated longer</u>
 6 <u>than twelve (12) months for that project until the grant recipient receives a</u>
 7 <u>decision. An approved project may receive a six (6) month extension of this</u>
 8 <u>deadline from the cabinet.</u>
- 9 (4) If the grant[selected match] recipient fails to comply with subsection (2) of this
 10 section or uses the awarded <u>funds[match money]</u> for any purpose other than an
 11 eligible use, the grant[selected eligible match] recipient shall forfeit and be liable to
 12 the cabinet for the full award amount.
- → Section 4. KRS 154.14-050 is amended to read as follows:
- 14 [The cabinet shall identify and certify the areas for grant funding designated by the (1)15 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Delta Regional 16 Authority, or Interagency Working Group as a priority for obligation of match 17 funds. Any area in Kentucky that is eligible for federal grant resources but is not a 18 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, a Delta Regional 19 Authority, or an Interagency Working Group designated community, may be 20 eligible for obligation of state funds under this section. The cabinet shall not 21 approve a project unless it finds that the project is in the public interest and the 22 grant funds will be used for a public purpose. For purposes of this subsection, 23 projects that are in the public interest and for a public purpose can include a 24 derivative private benefit, if the cabinet finds the following:
- 25 (a) The project will enhance a community or region;
- (b) The granting entity for which the cabinet's matching grant is being used
 requires a public purpose for grant eligibility; or

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1		(c) The	e cabinet in its judgment concludes the proposal will enhance the quality of
2		life	or services in a community or region.
3	(2)	The cabin	net shall evaluate each applicant's eligible project according to the criteria
4		described	in this section for the purpose of compiling a [recommendation and]score
5		for the eli	igible project pursuant to this section.
6	(3)	If a mate	h applicant is selected as an eligible grant applicant [recipient] approved
7		under th	ne GRANT Program[Government Resources Accelerating Needed
8		Transform	nation Program of 2024], it shall comply with any incentive agreements
9		and repo	rting requirements deemed necessary by the cabinet to verify that the
10		awarded	grant shall go toward an eligible use.
11	(4)	In the add	ministration of the GRANT Program [Government Resources Accelerating
12		Needed '	Transformation Program of 2024], the cabinet shall develop a scoring
13		system f	for eligible grant applications [the project proposed by each match
14		applicant	based on the total projected return on investment and the relative positive
15		impact in	the community.
16	(5)	The scori	ng system shall include a:
17		(a) Sco	re in each category as specified in subsection (6) of this section; and
18		(b) Tot	al weighted score, which is the average of the scores in each category.
19	(6)	The scori	ng categories shall include but are not limited to:
20		(a) Pro	jected return on investment the project will yield, which includes an
21		asse	essment of the:
22		1.	Likelihood of project completion both with the <i>match</i> [cabinet's] funding
23			and without;
24		2.	Application content when evaluated against the federal grant program's
25			publicly available scoring rubric or evaluation criteria, if any;
26		3.	Projected gross economic impact of the proposed project on the
27			community;

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1			4. Projected number of jobs created by the proposed project and
2			subsequent impact on the community;
3			5. Determination of the cost of the project based on the <u>amount</u> [cost]
4			expended by the cabinet if it obligates the requested grant amount to the
5			applicant;
6			6. Evidence of community support for the project <u>submitted by:</u>
7			a. The eligible grant applicant; or
8			b. A majority of eligible grant applicants for a regional project;
9			7. Likelihood that the applicant can successfully manage the federal grant's
10			administration requirements; and
11			8. Likelihood of success based on a federal agency prioritization of a
12			particular applicant; and
13		(b)	Overall positive impact the project will have on the surrounding community
14			as evidenced by clear and feasible projected outcomes of the grant-funded
15			project.
16	(7)	(a)	On or before May 1, 2024, and not later than May 1 every two (2) years
17			thereafter, the cabinet shall determine a county population ranking for each
18			county by adding the following two (2) factors:
19			1. The population density ranking; and
20			2. The ten (10) year percentage change in population ranking.
21		(b)	The required local match for each county shall be as follows:
22			1. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is
23			greater than or equal to one hundred ninety-three (193) shall provide a
24			minimum amount of local matching funds equal to one percent (1%) of
25			the state match;
26			2. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
27			than one hundred ninety-three (193) but greater than or equal to one

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1			hundred forty-five (145) shall provide a minimum amount of local
2			matching funds equal to two percent (2%) of the state match;
3			3. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
4			than one hundred forty-five (145) but greater than or equal to ninety-
5			seven (97) shall provide a minimum amount of local matching funds
6			equal to three percent (3%) of the state match;
7			4. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
8			than ninety-seven (97) but greater than or equal to forty-nine (49) shall
9			provide a minimum amount of local matching funds equal to four
10			percent (4%) of the state match; and
11			5. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
12			than forty-nine (49) shall provide a minimum amount of local matching
13			funds equal to five percent (5%) of the state match.
14		(c)	On or before November 1, 2024, and no later than November 1 every two (2)
15			years thereafter, the cabinet shall report to the Legislative Research
16			Commission and the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriation and Revenue
17			the following information for each county:
18			1. The county name;
19			2. The population density ranking for that county;
20			3. The ten (10) year percentage change in population ranking for that
21			county; and
22			4. The county population ranking for that county.
23	(8)	(a)	For selected eligible grant <u>applicants</u> [recipients] that are involved in a
24			regional project, the cabinet may pool the potential allocation of funds
25			available for each county represented by the eligible grant
26			applicants[recipients] for the grant amount awarded.
27		(b)	A county that is an eligible grant <i>applicant</i> [recipient] involved in a regional

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1		project shall provide that county's local matching funds based on the county
2		population ranking determined under subsection (7) of this section and each
3		county's local matching funds may be pooled as described in paragraph (a) of
4		this subsection [.
5	(9) -	Beginning no later than November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until the
6		authorized appropriation is spent or returned, the cabinet shall compile and submit a
7		report for each application approved by the GRANT Commission established in
8		KRS 154.14-080 for the Government Resources Accelerating Needed
9		Transformation Program of 2024. The report shall be electronically delivered to the
10		Legislative Research Commission and the Interim Joint Committee on
11		Appropriations and Revenue and contain the following information:
12		(a) The name of the applicant, a description of the eligible project, and the
13		location of each proposed project for which an application was approved;
14		(b) The date the application was approved by the GRANT Commission;
15		(c) The amount of funding authorized for each project approved;
16		(d) The total amount of funding disbursed for each project approved; and
17		(e) The round of funding for which each project received approval.
18	(10)	The Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of 2024
19		shall begin April 15, 2024. The cabinet shall begin accepting applications for the
20		program on May 15, 2024].
21		→Section 5. KRS 154.14-060 is amended to read as follows:
22	(1)	There is hereby established in the State Treasury a trust and agency account to be
23		known as the GRANT Program [Government Resources Accelerating Needed
24		Transformation Program of 2024] fund. The fund shall consist of moneys received
25		from state appropriations, gifts, grants, and federal funds.
26	(2)	The fund shall be administered and maintained by the cabinet.
27	(3)	(<i>a</i>) Amounts deposited in the fund shall be used for awarding:

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1	1 [(a)] Matching funds to guagasful applicants of the CDANT
1	$\underline{I.[(a)]}$ Matching funds to <u>successful</u> applicants of the <u>GRANT</u>
2	Program[Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation
3	Program of 2024] upon notification of award of the federal grant
4	requiring matching funds. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this
5	subsection, up to twenty percent (20%) of the amounts deposited in the
6	fund shall be used for match awards for nonprofit charitable
7	organizations organized under 26 U.S.C. sec. 501(c)(3); and
8	<u>2.[(b)]</u> Matching funds to <u>successful</u> applicants of the <u>GRANT</u>
9	Program[Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation
10	Program of 2024] upon notification of award of the federal grant
11	requiring matching funds. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this
12	subsection, up to eighty percent (80%) of the amounts deposited in the
13	fund shall be used for match awards to county or city governing bodies.
14	(b) The cabinet may transfer up to ten percent (10%) of funds remaining in one
15	(1) of the categories listed in paragraph (a)1. or 2. of this subsection to the
16	other category in that paragraph if:
17	1. The upper limit established is reached within a category;
18	2. There are eligible projects to be funded from the category that has
19	reached the limit; and
20	3. Funds remain available in the other category.
21	If a transfer is made, the cabinet shall provide notice in writing to the
22	Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue if the transfer is
23	made during an interim between legislative sessions, or the Senate Standing
24	Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and the House Standing
25	Committee on Appropriations and Revenue if the transfer is made during a
26	legislative session.
77	(4) Notwithstanding KPS 45 220 monous in the account not expended at the close of a

27 (4) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, moneys in the account not expended at the close of a

1		fisca	al year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward into the next fiscal year.
2	(5)	Any	interest earnings of the fund shall become a part of the fund and shall not
3		laps	e.
4	(6) [Mor	neys deposited in the fund are hereby appropriated for the purposes set forth in
5		this	section and shall not be appropriated or transferred by the General Assembly
6		for a	any other purposes.
7	(7)]	Any	match funds awarded under subsection (3) of this section shall be canceled
8		upo	n denial of the federal award [.
9	(8)	On	or after June 30, 2024, any unencumbered moneys in the fund established in
10		KR (5 147A.158 shall be transferred to the Government Resources Accelerating
11		Nee	ded Transformation Program of 2024 fund administered by the Cabinet for
12		Eco	nomic Development created in this section].
13		⇒s	ection 6. KRS 154.14-070 is amended to read as follows:
14	(1)	(a)	By June 1, 2024, and the first day of each month thereafter, the cabinet shall
15			submit a [monthly] report on eligible project applications to the Governor and
16			the Senate Standing Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and the
17			House Standing Committee on Appropriations and Revenue, or the Interim
18			Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue, and make the reports
19			available on the cabinet's website.
20		(b)	The monthly report shall be a summary of the eligible project applications and
21			shall include but not be limited to the following:
22			1. A list of all <i>eligible grant applications received</i> [match applicants];
23			2. The identity of applicants who were not selected for <u>the</u> obligation of
24			[match] funds;
25			3. Trends found in feedback given to applicants who were not selected for
26			<u>the</u> obligation of [match] funds;
27			4. <i>For each submitted eligible grant application:</i>

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1		a. The eligible use of funds and project for which funds are		
2		requested [Eligible uses of the projects cited in the match		
3		applications];		
4		<u>b.[5.]</u> The date of <u>submission</u> [the application;		
5		6. The date of receipt of the application by the cabinet];		
6		$\underline{c.}$ [7.] A description of the federal grant funds applied for by the		
7		applicant;		
8		\underline{d} .[8.] A description of the title, subject matter, preliminary evaluation,		
9		and scoring tally of the eligible grant application [project];		
10		<u>e.[9.]</u> The date of the cabinet's preliminary evaluation;		
11		<u>f.[10.]</u> The amount [of moneys] requested, and the amount [of		
12		moneys]approved or denied[for each application]; and		
13		\underline{g} .[11.] The date of the cabinet's final decision on obligation of the		
14		match funds, the date of the federal grant approval or denial, and		
15		whether the eligible project was approved or denied [; and		
16		12. Any other information requested by the cabinet].		
17	(2)	By November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until November 1, 2026, the cabinet		
18		shall prepare an annual report of the GRANT Program Government Resources		
19		Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of 2024] to be submitted to the		
20		Governor and the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and		
21		made available on the cabinet's website. The annual report shall include but not be		
22		limited to the following:		
23		(a) A summary of the monthly reports and the <u>eligible grant</u> {match} applications		
24		received and relevant statistics relating to actions taken by the cabinet and		
25		grants awarded, including the applicant, award amount, and the purpose of the		
26		funding;		
27		(b) The current balance of the <u>GRANT Program</u> [Government Resources		

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1		Accelerating Needed Transformation Program of 2024] fund;		
2	(c)	Recommendations regarding appropriations to the <u>GRANT</u>		
3		Program[Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation		
4		Program of 2024] fund for the upcoming fiscal year; and		
5	(d)	Recommendations for legislation or policy actions needed to facilitate greater		
6		receipt of grant funding to eligible grant <i>applicants</i> [recipients].		
7	→Section 7. The following KRS sections are repealed:			
8	154.14-010 Purpose of Government Resources Accelerating Needed Transformation			
9	Program of 2024.			
10	154.14-080 GRANT Commission Membership Meetings Staffing.			
11	\rightarrow Section 8. Whereas the GRANT program is available for a limited time period			
12	and adm	inistrative efficiency requires that funding be allocated immediately, an		
13	emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by			
14	the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.			