

**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2021**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB629**

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**Hearing Date:** Monday February 08, 2021  
**Committee On:** Appropriations  
**Introducer:** Morfeld  
**One Liner:** Create a grant program to provide financial assistance to entities affected by event cancellations

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	6	Senators Dorn, Kolterman, McDonnell, Stinner, Vargas, Wishart
<b>Nay:</b>	3	Senators Hilkemann, Clements, Erdman
<b>Absent:</b>		
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Oral Testimony:**

**Proponents:**

Senator Adam Morfeld  
Cora Schrader

**Representing:**

District 48  
Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 629 would create a grant program, administered by the Department of Revenue, to assist eligible political subdivisions and other entities affected by event cancellations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible recipients of the grant program would include municipalities that have received grants under the Civic and Community Center Financing Act, political subdivisions as defined in section 13-3102 and receiving state assistance pursuant to the Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act, and county agricultural societies organized under the County Agricultural Society Act.

The bill states legislative intent to appropriate \$8 million from the General Fund in FY2021-22 to the Department of Revenue to carry out provisions of the bill.

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**Explanation of amendments:**

AM139 would include definitions of an eligible recipient. Facilities defined in section 13-2603 and which have received state assistance under the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act would be included. For and not-for-profit music venues or venues otherwise dedicated to performance arts would also be included.

Additionally, the amendment would include additional types of events to be included under provisions of the bill. Events held at an eligible facility defined in section 13-2603 and receiving state assistance from the Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act would be included. Events held at for and not-for-profit venues dedicated to performance arts would also be

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included.

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John Stinner, Chairperson