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Senate passes bill funding \$180 million for Ohio Small Business Pandemic Relief

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Nathan Manning
Submitted

State Sens. Nathan Manning, R-North Ridgeville, and Michael Rulli, R-Salem, announced March 17 the Senate's unanimous passage of Senate Bill 109, providing an additional \$300 million of combined state and federal funding to businesses and other entities across Ohio for novel coronavirus pandemic-related expenses.

"This pandemic relief bill is vitally important to ensuring our small businesses receive much needed relief as quickly as possible," Manning said in a news release.

The \$300 million allocation will be directed for:

- \$20 million for indoor entertainment businesses that lost revenue due to canceled events and closures
- \$10 million for new businesses that opened their doors after Jan. 1, 2020
- \$150 million for small businesses that already were approved for aid but have yet to receive funding due to lack of program funding
- \$120 million for Ohio's fairs, veterans' homes and child care services, including: \$4.7 million for Ohio's county and independent fairs; \$3.7 million for Ohio's two veterans' homes; and \$112.2 million to reimburse child care providers for pandemic-related expenses.

"I am proud to sponsor this important bill, which will ensure our businesses, who have greatly suffered this year, have all the available resources to recover in a timely fashion," Rulli said.

To date, over \$2.5 billion in funding has been approved by the General Assembly to be distributed to Ohio's communities as they continue to battle and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Senate Bill 109 will be sent to the House for further consideration.