SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair 2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 221 (Ramos) - Tribal Nation Grant Fund

Version: January 8, 2025 **Policy Vote:** G.O. 15 - 0

Urgency: No Mandate: No

Hearing Date: August 29, 2025 **Consultant:** Janelle Miyashiro

Bill Summary: AB 221 makes various changes to the Tribal Nation Grant Fund (TNGF) and the processes used by the TNGF Panel (Panel) for awarding grants from the fund's available resources and for distributing funds to eligible tribes, as specified.

****** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM - SUSPENSE FILE *******

The following information is revised to reflect amendments adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025

Fiscal Impact: Unknown fiscal impact to the Gambling Control Commission for workload associated with administering the TNGF (Gambling Control Fund). The Commission notes there may be workload associated with managing and tracking an ever-growing number of grants. This increased workload may be absorbable, to the extent the Commission may streamline TNGF distribution workload with its other fund distribution responsibilities.

Author Amendments:

- State legislative intent to maximize the amount of funds distributed as equal shares grants each year, to exceed \$600,000 when there is sufficient moneys available in the TNGF. Specify that it is not the intent of the Legislature to authorize the Commission to intentionally limit equal shares grants to \$600,000 or less by purposefully limiting the money deposited into the fund.
- In the event there is not sufficient moneys available in the TNGF to distribute equal shares of \$600,000 per eligible tribe, require the Panel to distribute the entirety of the available moneys in the TNGF as equal shares.
- Specify TNGF grant distributions be made within 45 days of the end of each fiscal quarter, and at or around the same time as the Commission makes its quarterly Indian Gaming Revenue Sharing Trust Fund distributions.
- Add Assemblymember Hadwick and Senator Rubio as coauthors.