

2000 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 941

Offered January 24, 2000

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 40.2 of Title 2.1 a section numbered 2.1-639.41:1, relating to disclosure of office allowances of members of the General Assembly.

Patrons—Williams and Suit

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 40.2 of Title 2.1 a section numbered 2.1-639.41:1 as follows:

§ 2.1-639.41:1. Disclosure of office allowances.

A. Each member of the General Assembly who receives an allowance for office expenses and supplies provided by the general appropriation act shall keep a detailed and separate account of these funds and file an annual disclosure statement accounting for these funds as provided herein. The allowance shall be paid to the members separately or in itemized form. Members of the Senate shall file their disclosure statements with the Clerk of the Senate, and members of the House shall file their disclosure statements with the Clerk of the House. The disclosure statements shall be filed no later than the date members must file their statements of economic interests with the respective Clerks pursuant to § 2.1-639.40 and shall account for all expenditures and unexpended balances from the preceding calendar year. The disclosure statements shall be maintained as public records for five years in the office of the Clerk of the appropriate house. Any funds unexpended in the preceding calendar year shall be refunded to the Commonwealth and submitted to the Clerk of the appropriate house. For purposes of filing the disclosure statement, each member shall be responsible for determining what constitutes a business expense.

B. The disclosure statement shall be filed on a form approved by the respective Rules Committee for each house and shall set forth the date and amount of any expenditure, the name and address of the person to whom the expenditure was made, the object or purpose of the expenditure, and any unexpended balance in the account at the close of the year.

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