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SENATE BILL NO. 234 Offered January 14, 2000

A BILL to create the Advantage Virginia Electronic Procurement Program.

Patrons—Ticer, Byrne, Colgan, Edwards, Howell, Lambert, Maxwell, Puckett, Saslaw and Whipple; Delegates: Albo, Bennett, Bolvin, Callahan, Devolites, Diamonstein, Dillard, Katzen, McClure, McQuigg, Plum and Scott

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. § 1. That, in order to promote the economy of the Commonwealth and to assist small Virginia businesses in becoming competitive in electronic commerce, there is hereby established the Advantage Virginia Electronic Procurement (AVEP) Program.
- § 2. From such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly and from any gifts, grants, or donations from public or private sources, there is hereby created in the state treasury a special fund, to be known as the Advantage Virginia Electronic Procurement Fund ("the Fund"), to be administered by the Innovative Technology Authority ("the Authority") as created by Chapter 29 (§ 9-250 et seq.) of Title 9 of the Code of Virginia. The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it until such time when the provisions of this act expire. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the expiration of the provisions of this act shall revert to the general fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purpose of carrying out the AVEP Program.
- § 3. From such moneys available from the Fund, the Authority may make a grant of \$5,000 to any small business located in the Commonwealth which has been approved by the United States General Services Administration to be listed on the Federal Supply Schedule, but which is not listed on fedcenter.com website, provided that such business shall use the grant in order to be listed on the fedcenter.com website. In selecting beneficiaries, the Authority shall give priority to a business whose completed application has been received by the Authority first. Beneficiaries of the grant shall be responsible for their own maintenance fees that may be associated with being listed on fedcenter.com website. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund, which may consist of grants, shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the chairman or the vice chairman of the Authority, or, if so authorized by the Authority, under his facsimile signature and the official seal of the Authority.
- § 4. The Authority may promulgate any additional rules or procedures as necessary to carry out the provisions of this act but shall be exempt from the requirements of the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.).
- § 5. By December 1, 2000, the Authority shall report to the Joint Commission on Technology and Science or one of its advisory committee as created under Chapter 11 (§ 30-85 et seq.) of Title 30 of the Code of Virginia regarding the implementation of the AVEP Program and whether the AVEP Program shall be continued or terminated.
- 2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2002.