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HOUSE BILL NO. 2639

Offered January 11, 2001

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-2128 of the Code of Virginia, relating to general fund appropriation to the Water Quality Improvement Fund.*

Patrons—Moss, Almand, Amundson, Barlow, Baskerville, Bennett, Bloxom, Brink, Bryant, Christian, Clement, Councill, Crittenden, Darner, Day, Deeds, Dillard, Grayson, Hall, Jones, J.C., Moran, Morgan, Plum, Pollard, Robinson, Scott, Spruill and Watts; Senator: Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-2128 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 10.1-2128. Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund established; purposes.

A. There is hereby established in the state treasury a special permanent, nonreverting fund, to be known as the "Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. ~~The Fund shall consist of sums appropriated to it by the General Assembly which shall include, unless otherwise provided in the general appropriation act, Notwithstanding any provision of law or a contrary provision of the general appropriation act, including the terms of § 4-11.00 of the general appropriation act, the Comptroller shall annually transfer into the Fund~~ ten percent of the annual general fund revenue collections that are in excess of the official estimates in the general appropriation act and ten percent of any unreserved general fund balance at the close of each fiscal year whose reappropriation is not required in the general appropriation act *or ten million dollars, whichever is greater. The Comptroller shall deposit such funds into the Fund no later than August 31 of each year.* The Fund shall also consist of such other sums as may be made available to it from any other source, public or private, and shall include any penalties or damages collected under this article, federal grants solicited and received for the specific purposes of the Fund, and all interest and income from investment of the Fund. Any sums remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. All moneys designated for the Fund shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for Water Quality Improvement Grants. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon the written request of the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality or the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation as provided in this chapter.

B. The purpose of the Fund is to provide Water Quality Improvement Grants to local governments, soil and water conservation districts, institutions of higher education and individuals for point and nonpoint source pollution prevention, reduction and control programs and efforts undertaken in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The Fund shall not be used for agency operating expenses or for purposes of replacing or otherwise reducing any general, nongeneral, or special funds allocated or appropriated to any state agency.

INTRODUCED

HB2639