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## SENATE BILL NO. 1190

Offered January 12, 2005

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A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-5100 through 2.2-5104 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Investment Partnership Act.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron—Colgan

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Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 2.2-5100 through 2.2-5104 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-5100. Short title; definitions.

A. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Virginia Investment Partnership Act."

B. As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Average manufacturing wage" means that amount determined by the Virginia Employment Commission to be the average wage paid manufacturing workers in a locality or region of the Commonwealth.

"Average nonmanufacturing wage" means that amount determined by the Virginia Employment Commission to be the average wage paid nonmanufacturing workers in basic employment in a locality or region of the Commonwealth.

"Basic employment" means employment that brings new or additional income into Virginia and adds to the gross state product.

"Capital investment" means an investment in real property, personal property, or both, at a manufacturing or basic nonmanufacturing facility within the Commonwealth that is capitalized by the company and that increases the productivity of the manufacturing facility, results in the *creation, development or* utilization of a more advanced technology than is in use immediately prior to such investment, or both. In order to qualify as a capital investment, an investment in technology shall result in a measurable increase in capacity or productivity, a measurable decrease in the production of flawed product, or both. Expenditures for maintenance, replacement or repair of existing machinery, tools and real property shall not constitute a capital investment; however, expenditures for the replacement of property shall not be ineligible for designation as a capital investment if such replacement results in a measurable increase in productivity.

"Eligible research and development service" means an existing Virginia research and development service that supports manufacturing and that makes a capital investment of at least \$25 million, which investment does not result in any net reduction in employment within one year after the capital investment has been completed and verified. Any entity participating in any other production grant program in the Commonwealth shall not be eligible.

"Eligible manufacturer or research and development service" means an existing Virginia manufacturer or research and development service that makes a capital investment of at least \$25 million that is announced on or after June 1, 1998, which investment does not result in any net reduction in employment within one year after the capital investment has been completed and verified. Any entity participating in any other production grant program in the Commonwealth shall not be an eligible manufacturer or research and development service.

"Existing Virginia manufacturer" means a manufacturer that has a legal presence within the Commonwealth for at least five years prior to making the announcement of the capital investment that makes it an eligible manufacturer.

"Flawed product" means an irregular unit of goods that cannot be sold to an end user.

"Fund" means the Virginia Investment Partnership Grant Fund, comprised of (i) the Major Eligible Employer Grant subfund and (ii) the Investment Performance Grant subfund, created pursuant to § 2.2-5104.

"Major eligible employer" means an existing Virginia manufacturer or any other nonmanufacturing basic employer that makes a capital investment of at least \$100 million and creates at least 1,000 jobs, or corporate headquarters and other basic employers that make a capital investment of at least \$100 million and create at least 400 jobs paying at least twice the prevailing average wage for the area.

"Manufacturer" means a business firm owning or operating a manufacturing establishment as defined in the Standard Industrial Classification Manual issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget or the North American Industry Classification System Manual issued by the United States Census Bureau.

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59 "Net present value of benefits to Virginia" means the present value of the amount by which (i) the  
60 anticipated additional state tax revenue expected to accrue to the Commonwealth as a result of the  
61 capital investment and jobs created, over a period following the completion of the capital investment not  
62 to exceed 20 years, exceeds (ii) the value of all incentives provided by the Commonwealth, including  
63 any grant under this article, for such capital investment during that period.

64 "New job" means employment of an indefinite duration at the eligible facility, created as the direct  
65 result of the capital investment, for which the standard fringe benefits are paid by the firm for the  
66 employee, requiring a minimum of either (i) 35 hours of an employee's time a week for the entire  
67 normal year of the firm's operations, which "normal year" must consist of at least 48 weeks or (ii) 1,680  
68 hours per year. Seasonal or temporary positions, positions created when a job function is shifted from an  
69 existing location in this Commonwealth to the facility, and positions with contractors, suppliers, and  
70 similar multiplier or spin-off jobs shall not qualify as new jobs under this article.

71 "Partnership" means the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

72 "Productivity" means the number of hours of labor required to produce a unit of goods.

73 "Research and development service" means a business firm owning or operating an establishment  
74 engaged in conducting research and experimental development that supports manufacturing in the  
75 physical, engineering and life sciences as defined in the North American Industry Classification System  
76 Manual issued by the United States Census Bureau.

77 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce and Trade.

78 § 2.2-5101. Virginia Investment Performance Grants.

79 A. Subject to the appropriation by the General Assembly of sufficient moneys to the Investment  
80 Performance Grant subfund, any eligible manufacturer *or research and development service* that is not  
81 eligible for a major eligible employer grant under § 2.2-5102 shall be eligible for an investment  
82 performance grant as provided in this section.

83 B. The Partnership shall establish an application process by which eligible manufacturers *and*  
84 *research and development service* may apply for a grant under this section. An application for a grant  
85 under this section shall not be approved until the Partnership has verified that the capital investment has  
86 been completed.

87 C. The amount of the investment performance grant that an eligible manufacturer *or research and*  
88 *development service* shall be eligible to receive under this section shall be determined by the Secretary,  
89 based on the recommendation of the Partnership, and contingent upon approval by the Governor. The  
90 determination of the appropriate amount of an investment performance grant shall be based on the  
91 application of guidelines that establish criteria for correlating the amount of a grant to the relative value  
92 to the Commonwealth of the eligible investment.

93 D. The Partnership shall assist the Secretary in developing objective guidelines that shall be used in  
94 awarding investment performance grants. No grant shall be awarded until the Secretary has provided  
95 copies of such guidelines for review to the chairmen of the House Committee on Appropriations and the  
96 Senate Committee on Finance. The preparation of the guidelines shall be exempt from the requirements  
97 of Article 2 (§ 2.2-4006 et seq.) of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.). The guidelines  
98 shall require determinations regarding the amount of investment performance grants to address:

99 1. The number of new jobs created by the capital investment;

100 2. The wages paid for the new jobs and the amount by which wages exceed the average  
101 manufacturing wage for the locality or region;

102 3. The extent to which the capital investment produces (i) measurable increases in capacity,  
103 productivity, or both, ~~and/or~~ (ii) measurable decreases in the production of flawed product, ~~and/or~~ (iii)  
104 *measurable advances in knowledge (research) and or the application of research finding for the creation*  
105 *of new or significantly improved products or processes that support manufacturing;*

106 4. The amount of the capital investment;

107 5. The net present value of benefits to Virginia;

108 6. The amount of other incentives offered by the Commonwealth and the locality; and

109 7. The importance of the manufacturing *or research and development* facility to the economy of the  
110 locality or region.

111 The guidelines shall also address the eligibility of manufacturers *or research and development*  
112 *services* that make a capital investment in phases over a period of years, and limits on eligibility for  
113 multiple grants by the same manufacturer *or research and development service* within stated periods of  
114 time.

115 E. ~~The~~ *For all eligible projects awarded grants before July 1, 2005, the* amount of an investment  
116 performance grant to any eligible manufacturer *or research and development service* under this section  
117 shall not exceed \$3 million or 10 percent of the amount appropriated by the General Assembly to the  
118 Investment Performance Grant subfund in the year that the terms of a grant are determined. Under no  
119 circumstances shall an eligible manufacturer *or research and development service* be eligible for a grant  
120 under this chapter of more than \$25 million. *For all eligible projects awarded grants on or after July 1,*

2005, the amount of an investment performance grant to any eligible manufacturer or research and development service under this section shall not exceed \$ 1,500,000.

F. ~~The~~ For all eligible projects awarded grants before July 1, 2005, the aggregate amount of investment performance grants approved under this section in any year shall not exceed \$6 million, and the aggregate amount of grants outstanding to all eligible manufacturers and research and development services under this section for all years shall at no time exceed \$30 million. The annual obligations of the Commonwealth to make grant payments to individual eligible manufacturers and research and development services under this section shall not exceed \$600,000. For all eligible projects awarded on or after July 1, 2005, the aggregate amount of investment performance grants approved under this section in any year shall not exceed \$3 million, and the aggregate amount of such grants awarded after that date and outstanding at any time shall not exceed \$15 million. For all such grants awarded after that date, the annual obligations of the Commonwealth to make grant payments to individual eligible manufacturers and research and development services under this section shall not exceed \$300,000.

G. Any eligible manufacturer or research and development service shall be eligible to receive a grant from the Fund in five equal installments beginning in the ~~sixth~~fourth year after the capital investment is completed and the Partnership has verified that the requirements applicable to such grant have been satisfied. Any eligible manufacturer or research and development service located in a fiscally distressed area of the State, as defined in the guidelines implementing this chapter, shall be eligible to begin receiving grants in the ~~fourth~~third year after the capital investment is completed and verified.

§ 2.2-5102. Performance grant for major eligible employers.

A. As used in this section, "major eligible employer" means any eligible manufacturer or other nonmanufacturing basic employer that makes a capital investment of at least \$100 million that results in the creation of at least 1,000 new jobs. For corporate headquarters and other basic employers that make a capital investment of at least \$100 million and create at least 400 new jobs paying at least twice the prevailing average wage for the area, the 1,000 job requirement may be reduced in proportion to the factor by which the wages for the new jobs exceed the prevailing average wage for the area. All other provisions of this chapter shall apply equally to major eligible manufacturers and major eligible nonmanufacturing basic employers, in this chapter collectively referred to as "major eligible employers."

B. Subject to the appropriation by the General Assembly of sufficient moneys to the Major Eligible Employer Grant subfund, any major eligible employer shall be eligible for a grant under this section of up to \$25 million for all grants awarded before July 1, 2005, to be payable from such subfund over a period of not less than five years and not more than seven years, commencing in the sixth year following the approval by the Secretary of the employer's grant application. Any major eligible employer located in a fiscally distressed area of the State, as defined in the guidelines implementing this chapter, shall be eligible to begin receiving grants in the fourth year after the capital investment is completed and verified. Individual grants to major eligible employers awarded on or after July 1, 2005, however, shall not exceed \$12 million, and shall be payable from such subfund in five equal annual installments commencing in the fourth year following the approval by the Secretary of the employer's grant application.

C. The Partnership shall establish an application process by which major eligible employers may apply for a grant under this section. An application for a grant under this section shall not be approved until the Partnership has verified that the capital investment has been completed.

D. The Comptroller shall not draw any warrants to issue checks for grants under this chapter without a specific legislative appropriation as specified in conditions and restrictions on expenditures in the appropriation act. The payment of any grant under this section shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in a memorandum of understanding between a major eligible employer and the Commonwealth. These terms and conditions shall supplement the provisions of this chapter and shall include but not be limited to the terms of the payment of the grant. The payment of the grant shall be made in full or in proportion to a major eligible employer's fulfillment of the terms of the memorandum of understanding. The Secretary shall consult with the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance prior to entering into any memorandum of understanding. The House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance shall have the opportunity to review any memorandum of understanding prior to its execution by the Commonwealth.

§ 2.2-5103. Requirements for grants generally.

A. Any eligible manufacturer or research and development service eligible to apply for a grant under this chapter shall provide evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary, of the amount of the capital investment, the number of new jobs created as a result of the capital investment and such other evidence that requirements of this article have been satisfied. An eligible manufacturer or research and development service whose application has been approved shall continue to comply with the requirements for grant eligibility during the grant payment period. The Partnership shall verify that the conditions for approval of any grant have been satisfied.

182 B. Prior to any grant payment, the Partnership shall certify to (i) the Comptroller and (ii) each  
183 applicant the amount of the grant to which such applicant is entitled. Subject to the appropriation by the  
184 General Assembly of sufficient moneys to the appropriate subfund, payment of such grant shall be made  
185 from the subfund by check issued by the State Treasurer on warrant of the Comptroller within sixty  
186 days of certification.

187 C. As a condition of receipt of a grant, a major eligible employer shall make available to the  
188 Partnership for inspection upon request all relevant and applicable documents to determine whether the  
189 requirements for the receipt of grants as set forth in this chapter have been satisfied. All such documents  
190 appropriately identified by the major eligible employer shall be considered confidential and proprietary.

191 D. Within ~~thirty~~30 days of each calendar quarter, the Secretary shall provide a report to the chairmen  
192 of the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance that shall include, but  
193 is not limited to, the following information: the name of the eligible manufacturer *or research and*  
194 *development service* determined to be eligible for a grant; the product it manufactures *or the nature of*  
195 *the research*; the locality of the manufacturing *or research and development* facility; the amount of the  
196 grant made or committed from the Fund; the number of new jobs created or projected to be created; the  
197 amount of the manufacturer's *or research and development service's* capital investment; and the  
198 timetable for the completion of the capital investment and new jobs created.

199 E. The Secretary shall provide grants and commitments from the Fund in an amount not to exceed  
200 the dollar amount contained in the Fund. If funds are committed for years beyond the fiscal years  
201 covered under the existing appropriation act, the State Treasurer shall set aside and reserve such funds  
202 as have been committed, and such funds shall remain in the Fund for those future fiscal years. No grant  
203 shall be payable in the years beyond the existing appropriation act unless such funds are currently  
204 available in the Fund.

205 § 2.2-5104. Virginia Investment Partnership Grant Fund.

206 A. There is established a special fund in the state treasury to be known as the Virginia Investment  
207 Partnership Grant Fund. The Fund shall consist of the Major Eligible Employer Grant subfund and the  
208 Investment Performance Grant subfund. Each subfund shall include such moneys as may be appropriated  
209 by the General Assembly and designated for the respective subfund, *a "sinking fund" including some*  
210 *proportion of the marginal revenues derived from eligible companies receiving grants under this Act.*  
211 The Fund shall be used solely for the payment of investment incentive grants to existing *eligible*  
212 *Virginia manufacturers companies* pursuant to this chapter. The Partnership shall administer the Virginia  
213 Investment Partnership Grant Fund.

214 B. The Partnership shall allocate, from the appropriate subfund, moneys in the following order of  
215 priority: (i) first to unpaid grant amounts carried forward from prior years because eligible manufacturers  
216 did not receive the full amount of any grant to which they were eligible in a prior year and (ii) then to  
217 other approved applicants. If the moneys in the Fund are less than the amount of grants to which  
218 approved applicants in any class of priority are eligible, the moneys in the appropriate subfund shall be  
219 apportioned pro rata among eligible applicants in such class, based upon the amount of the grant to  
220 which an approved applicant is eligible and the amount of money in the subfund available for allocation  
221 to such class.

222 C. If a grant recipient is allocated less than the full amount of a grant to which it is eligible in any  
223 year, it shall not be eligible for the deficiency in that year, but the unpaid portion of the grant to which  
224 it was eligible shall be carried forward by the Partnership to the following year, during which it shall be  
225 in the first class of priority as provided in clause (i) of subsection B.

226 D. The Partnership shall determine the amount of the grants to be allocated to eligible applicants by  
227 June 30 of each year. The Partnership shall then certify to the Comptroller the amount of grant an  
228 eligible manufacturer shall receive. Payments shall be made by check issued by the State Treasurer on  
229 warrant of the Comptroller.

230 E. All excess funds remaining in any given year shall be carried forward on the books of the Fund  
231 for use in subsequent years.

232 F. Actions of the Partnership relating to the allocation and awarding of grants shall be exempt from  
233 the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) pursuant to subdivision B. 4. of  
234 § 2.2-4006.