

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2006 SESSION

CHAPTER 451

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 46 of Title 59.1 a section numbered 59.1-529.1, relating to enforcement of the Virginia Post-Disaster Anti-Price Gouging Act; emergency orders; penalties.

[H 1094]

Approved March 31, 2006

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 46 of Title 59.1 a section numbered 59.1-529.1 as follows:

§ 59.1-529.1. Emergency orders; penalties.

A. Upon finding that during a time of disaster a supplier is selling, leasing, or licensing, or offering to sell, lease, or license, a necessary good or service within the area for which the state of emergency is declared at such an unconscionable price that such selling, leasing, or licensing, or offering to sell, lease, or license presents an imminent and substantial danger of endangering the public welfare by creating public panic, the Governor is authorized to issue for a period not to exceed 30 days, without hearing, an emergency order directing the supplier to reduce the price of the necessary good or service to the prevailing price in the local market. The confidentiality of all evidence, testimony, documents, or other results of investigations leading to issuance of the emergency order, including the names of the complainant and the person that is the subject of the investigation, shall be maintained.

B. The supplier to whom such emergency order is issued shall be notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, sent to the last known address of the supplier, and by personal delivery by an agent of the Governor.

C. If the supplier who has been issued such an emergency order is not complying with the terms thereof, the Governor shall notify the Attorney General, who shall immediately investigate as provided for under this chapter.