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**SENATE BILL NO. 842**

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled December 22, 2008

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 9.3 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-946.6, relating to campaign finance; prohibited contributions from foreign nationals.*

Patron—Cuccinelli

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 9.3 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-946.6 as follows:**

*§ 24.2-946.6. Prohibited contributions from foreign nationals.*

*It shall be unlawful for a foreign national, directly or indirectly, to make (i) a contribution of money or other thing of value, or to make an express or implied promise to make a contribution, in connection with a state or local election, to any candidate, campaign committee, or political committee or (ii) an expenditure or independent expenditure in connection with a state or local election. It shall be unlawful for a person, candidate, campaign committee, or political committee to solicit, accept, or receive a contribution from a foreign national.*

*For the purposes of this section, "foreign national" has the same meaning as defined in 2 U.S.C. § 441e on July 1, 2009.*

*Any person who violates, or aids, abets, or participates in the violation of, this section shall be subject to a civil penalty equal to the amount of the prohibited contribution or promised contribution or \$500, whichever amount is greater. The attorney for the Commonwealth shall initiate civil proceedings to enforce the civil penalty provided herein. Any civil penalties collected shall be payable to the State Treasurer for deposit to the general fund.*

INTRODUCED

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