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HOUSE BILL NO. 425

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 12, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 58.1-344.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to voluntary contributions of tax refunds; eligible nonprofit human services programs.

 Patron—Hope

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 58.1-344.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 58.1-344.3. Voluntary contributions of refunds requirements.

A. 1. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2005, all entities entitled to voluntary contributions of tax refunds listed in subsections B and C must have received at least \$10,000 in contributions in each of the three previous taxable years for which there is complete data and in which such entity was listed on the individual income tax return.

2. In the event that an entity listed in subsections B and C does not satisfy the requirement in subdivision 1 of this subsection, such entity shall no longer be listed on the individual income tax return.

3. a. The entities listed in subdivisions B 21 and B 22 as well as any other entities in subsections B and C added subsequent to the 2004 Session of the General Assembly shall not appear on the individual income tax return until their addition to the individual income tax return results in a maximum of 25 contributions listed on the return. Such contributions shall be added in the order that they are listed in subsections B and C.

b. Each entity added to the income tax return shall appear on the return for at least three consecutive taxable years before the requirement in subdivision 1 of this subsection is applied to such entity.

4. The Department of Taxation shall report annually by the first day of each General Assembly Regular Session to the chairmen of the House and Senate Finance Committees the amounts collected for each entity listed under subsections B and C for the three most recent taxable years for which there is complete data. Such report shall also identify the entities, if any, that will be removed from the individual income tax return because they have failed the requirements in subdivision 1 of this subsection, the entities that will remain on the individual income tax return, and the entities, if any, that will be added to the individual income tax return.

B. Subject to the provisions of subsection A, the following entities entitled to voluntary contributions shall appear on the individual income tax return and are eligible to receive tax refund contributions of not less than \$1:

1. Nongame wildlife voluntary contribution.

a. All moneys contributed shall be used for the conservation and management of endangered species and other nongame wildlife. "Nongame wildlife" includes protected wildlife, endangered and threatened wildlife, aquatic wildlife, specialized habitat wildlife both terrestrial and aquatic, and mollusks, crustaceans, and other invertebrates under the jurisdiction of the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Game Protection Fund and which shall be accounted for as a separate part thereof to be designated as the Nongame Cash Fund. All moneys so deposited in the Nongame Cash Fund shall be used by the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries for the purposes set forth herein.

2. Open space recreation and conservation voluntary contribution.

a. All moneys contributed shall be used by the Department of Conservation and Recreation to acquire land for recreational purposes and preserve natural areas; to develop, maintain, and improve state park sites and facilities; and to provide funds to local public bodies pursuant to the Virginia Outdoor Fund Grants Program.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Open Space Recreation and Conservation Fund. The moneys in the fund shall be allocated one-half to the Department of Conservation and Recreation for the purposes stated in subdivision 2 a of this subsection and one-half to local public bodies pursuant to the Virginia Outdoor Fund Grants Program.

3. Voluntary contribution to political party.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the State Central Committee of any party that meets the definition of a political party under § 24.2-101 as of July 1 of the previous taxable year. The maximum contribution allowable under this subdivision shall be \$25. In the case of a joint return of husband and

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59 wife, each spouse may designate that the maximum contribution allowable be paid.

60 4. United States Olympic Committee voluntary contribution.

61 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the United States Olympic Committee.

62 5. Housing program voluntary contribution.

63 a. All moneys contributed shall be used by the Department of Housing and Community Development
64 to provide assistance for emergency, transitional, and permanent housing for the homeless; and to
65 provide assistance to housing for the low-income elderly for the physically or mentally disabled.

66 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Tax Check-off for
67 Housing Fund. All moneys deposited in the fund shall be used by the Department of Housing and
68 Community Development for the purposes set forth in this subdivision. Funds made available to the
69 Virginia Tax Check-off for Housing Fund may supplement but shall not supplant activities of the
70 Virginia Housing Partnership Revolving Fund established pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 36-141 et seq.) of
71 Title 36 or those of the Virginia Housing Development Authority.

72 6. Voluntary contributions to the Department for the Aging.

73 a. All moneys contributed shall be used by the Department for the Aging for the enhancement of
74 transportation services for the elderly and disabled.

75 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Transportation Services for the
76 Elderly and Disabled Fund. All moneys so deposited in the fund shall be used by the Department for
77 the Aging for the enhancement of transportation services for the elderly and disabled. The Department
78 for the Aging shall conduct an annual audit of the moneys received pursuant to this subdivision and
79 shall provide an evaluation of all programs funded pursuant to this subdivision annually to the Secretary
80 of Health and Human Resources.

81 7. Voluntary contribution to the Community Policing Fund.

82 a. All moneys contributed shall be used to provide grants to local law-enforcement agencies for the
83 purchase of equipment or the support of services, as approved by the Criminal Justice Services Board,
84 relating to community policing.

85 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Community Policing Fund. All
86 moneys deposited in such fund shall be used by the Department of Criminal Justices Services for the
87 purposes set forth herein.

88 8. Voluntary contribution to promote the arts.

89 All moneys contributed shall be used by the Virginia Arts Foundation to assist the Virginia
90 Commission for the Arts in its statutory responsibility of promoting the arts in the Commonwealth. All
91 moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Arts Foundation Fund.

92 9. Voluntary contribution to the Historic Resources Fund.

93 All moneys contributed shall be deposited in the Historic Resources Fund established pursuant to
94 § 10.1-2202.1.

95 10. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy.

96 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public
97 Policy. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Humanities Fund.

98 11. Voluntary contribution to the Center for Governmental Studies.

99 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Center for Governmental Studies, a public service and
100 research center of the University of Virginia. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known
101 as the Governmental Studies Fund.

102 12. Voluntary contribution to the Law and Economics Center.

103 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Law and Economics Center, a public service and
104 research center of George Mason University. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known
105 as the Law and Economics Fund.

106 13. Voluntary contribution to Children of America Finding Hope.

107 All moneys contributed shall be used by Children of America Finding Hope (CAFH) in its programs
108 which are designed to reach children with emotional and physical needs.

109 14. Voluntary contribution to 4-H Educational Centers.

110 All moneys contributed shall be used by the 4-H Educational Centers throughout the Commonwealth
111 for their (i) educational, leadership, and camping programs and (ii) operational and capital costs. The
112 State Treasurer shall pay the moneys to the Virginia 4-H Foundation in Blacksburg, Virginia.

113 15. Voluntary contribution to promote organ and tissue donation.

114 a. All moneys contributed shall be used by the Virginia Transplant Council to assist in its statutory
115 responsibility of promoting and coordinating educational and informational activities as related to the
116 organ, tissue, and eye donation process and transplantation in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

117 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Donor Registry and
118 Public Awareness Fund. All moneys deposited in such fund shall be used by the Virginia Transplant
119 Council for the purposes set forth herein.

120 16. Voluntary contributions to the Virginia War Memorial Foundation and the National D-Day

Memorial Foundation.

All moneys contributed shall be used by the Virginia War Memorial Foundation and the National D-Day Memorial Foundation in their work through each of their respective memorials. The State Treasurer shall divide the moneys into two equal portions and pay one portion to the Virginia War Memorial Foundation and the other portion to the National D-Day Memorial Foundation.

17. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Federation of Humane Societies to assist in its mission of saving, caring for, and finding homes for homeless animals.

18. Voluntary contribution to the Tuition Assistance Grant Fund.

a. All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Tuition Assistance Grant Fund for use in providing monetary assistance to residents of the Commonwealth who are enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs in private Virginia colleges.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Tuition Assistance Grant Fund. All moneys so deposited in the Fund shall be administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in accordance with and for the purposes provided under the Tuition Assistance Grant Act (§ 23-38.11 et seq.).

19. Voluntary contribution to the Spay and Neuter Fund.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Spay and Neuter Fund for use by localities in the Commonwealth for providing low-cost spay and neuter surgeries through direct provision or contract or each locality may make the funds available to any private, nonprofit sterilization program for dogs and cats in such locality. The Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amounts designated on all returns from each locality in the Commonwealth, based upon the locality that each filer who makes a voluntary contribution to the Fund lists as his permanent address. The State Treasurer shall pay the appropriate amount to each respective locality.

20. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

21. Voluntary contribution for the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Department of Emergency Management for the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness.

22. Voluntary contribution for the cancer centers in the Commonwealth.

All moneys contributed shall be paid equally to all entities in the Commonwealth that officially have been designated as cancer centers by the National Cancer Institute.

23. Voluntary contribution to the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program Fund.

a. All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program Fund to support the work of and generate nonstate funds to maintain the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Program Fund as established in § 30-231.4.

c. All moneys so deposited in the Fund shall be administered by the State Council of Higher Education in accordance with and for the purposes provided in Chapter 34.1 (§ 30-231.01 et seq.) of Title 30.

24. Voluntary contribution to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Living History and Public Policy Center.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Board of Trustees of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Living History and Public Policy Center.

25. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Caregivers Grant Fund.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Caregivers Grant Fund established pursuant to § 63.2-2202.

26. Voluntary contribution to public library foundations.

All moneys contributed pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited into the state treasury. The Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amounts designated on all returns for each public library foundation and shall report the same to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the appropriate amount to the respective public library foundation.

27. Voluntary contribution to Celebrating Special Children, Inc.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to Celebrating Special Children, Inc. and shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Celebrating Special Children, Inc. Fund.

28. Voluntary contributions to the Department for the Aging.

a. All moneys contributed shall be used by the Department for the Aging for providing Medicare Part D counseling to the elderly and disabled.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Medicare Part D Counseling Fund. All moneys so deposited shall be used by the Department for the Aging to provide counseling for the elderly and disabled concerning Medicare Part D. The Department for the Aging shall conduct an annual

182 audit of the moneys received pursuant to this subdivision and shall provide an evaluation of all
183 programs funded pursuant to the subdivision to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

184 29. Voluntary contribution to community foundations.

185 All moneys contributed pursuant to this subdivision shall be deposited into the state treasury. The
186 Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amounts designated on all returns for each
187 community foundation and shall report the same to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the
188 appropriate amount to the respective community foundation. A "community foundation" shall be defined
189 as any institution that meets the membership requirements for a community foundation established by
190 the Council on Foundations.

191 30. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education.

192 a. All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Foundation for Community College Education
193 for use in providing monetary assistance to Virginia residents who are enrolled in comprehensive
194 community colleges in Virginia.

195 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Foundation for
196 Community College Education Fund. All moneys so deposited in the Fund shall be administered by the
197 Virginia Foundation for Community College Education in accordance with and for the purposes
198 provided under the Community College Incentive Scholarship Program (§ 23-220.2 et seq.).

199 31. Voluntary contribution to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority.

200 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access
201 Authority to be used for the purposes described in § 15.2-6601.

202 32. Voluntary contribution to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Fund.

203 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment
204 Fund established pursuant to § 32.1-368.

205 33. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center.

206 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center for use in
207 its mission to increase the public's knowledge and appreciation of Virginia's marine environment and
208 inspire commitment to preserve its existence.

209 C. Subject to the provisions of subsection A, the following voluntary contributions shall appear on
210 the individual income tax return and are eligible to receive tax refund contributions or by making
211 payment to the Department if the individual is not eligible to receive a tax refund pursuant to § 58.1-309
212 or if the amount of such tax refund is less than the amount of the voluntary contribution:

213 1. Voluntary contribution to the Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia.

214 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Family and Children's Trust Fund of Virginia.

215 2. Voluntary Chesapeake Bay Restoration Contribution.

216 a. All moneys contributed shall be used to help fund Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries restoration
217 activities in accordance with tributary plans developed pursuant to Article 7 (§ 2.2-215 et seq.) of
218 Chapter 2 of Title 2.2.

219 b. The Tax Commissioner shall annually determine the total amount of voluntary contributions and
220 shall report the same to the State Treasurer, who shall credit that amount to a special nonreverting fund
221 to be administered by the Office of the Secretary of Natural Resources. All moneys so deposited shall
222 be used for the purposes of providing grants for the implementation of tributary plans developed
223 pursuant to Article 7 (§ 2.2-215 et seq.) of Chapter 2 of Title 2.2.

224 3. Voluntary Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Contribution.

225 All moneys contributed shall be used by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation for the Jamestown
226 2007 quadricentennial celebration. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the
227 Jamestown Quadricentennial Fund. This subdivision shall be effective for taxable years beginning before
228 January 1, 2008.

229 4. State forests voluntary contribution.

230 a. All moneys contributed shall be used for the development and implementation of conservation and
231 education initiatives in the state forests system.

232 b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the State Forests System Fund,
233 established pursuant to § 10.1-1119.1. All moneys so deposited in such fund shall be used by the State
234 Forester for the purposes set forth herein.

235 5. Voluntary contributions to Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund.

236 All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund established
237 pursuant to § 32.1-324.2, such funds to be used for the treatment of Virginians sustaining uninsured
238 medical catastrophes.

239 6. Voluntary contribution to local school divisions.

240 a. All moneys contributed shall be used by a specified local public school foundation as created by
241 and for the purposes stated in § 22.1-212.2:2.

242 b. All moneys collected pursuant to subdivision 6 a of this subsection or through voluntary payments
243 by taxpayers designated for a local public school foundation over refundable amounts shall be deposited

into the state treasury. The Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amounts designated on all returns for each public school foundation and shall report the same to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the appropriate amount to the respective public school foundation.

c. In order for a public school foundation to be eligible to receive contributions under this section, school boards must notify the Department during the taxable year in which they want to participate prior to the deadlines and according to procedures established by the Tax Commissioner.

7. Voluntary contribution to Home Energy Assistance Fund.

All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Home Energy Assistance Fund established pursuant to § 63.2-805, such funds to be used to assist low-income Virginians in meeting seasonal residential energy needs.

8. Voluntary contribution to the Virginia Military Family Relief Fund.

a. All moneys contributed shall be paid to the Virginia Military Family Relief Fund for use in providing assistance to military service personnel on active duty and their families for living expenses including, but not limited to, food, housing, utilities, and medical services.

b. All moneys shall be deposited into a special fund known as the Virginia Military Family Relief Fund, established and administered pursuant to § 44-102.2.

9. Voluntary contribution to nonprofit human services programs approved by each locality.

a. All moneys contributed shall be used by pre-approved nonprofit human services programs in participating localities. Such nonprofits shall apply with and be chosen by the Department of Social Services in each locality. The moneys contributed shall fund core, essential human services with 10 percent or less going to fund administrative costs of the eligible nonprofit. Refunds may be designated and contributions made by individual taxpayers residing within, and corporate income taxpayers doing business within, the locality.

b. The Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amounts designated on all returns for each eligible nonprofit human services program and shall report the same to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the appropriate amount to the respective commissioner of the revenue or Finance Director for the locality in which such nonprofit is located.

c. In order for a nonprofit human services program to be eligible to receive contributions under this section, the commissioner of the revenue, or Finance Director for the locality in which such nonprofit is located, shall notify the Department during the taxable year in which the locality wants to participate prior to the deadlines and according to the procedures established by the Tax Commissioner.

D. Unless otherwise specified and subject to the requirements in § 58.1-344.2, all moneys collected for each entity in subsections B and C shall be deposited into the state treasury. The Tax Commissioner shall determine annually the total amount designated for each entity in subsections B and C on all individual income tax returns and shall report the same to the State Treasurer, who shall credit that amount to each entity's respective special fund.