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**HOUSE BILL NO. 80**

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled December 30, 2009

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 63.2-601.1, relating to the Statewide Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program Funding Pool.*

Patrons—Englin, Keam, McQuinn and Tyler

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 63.2-601.1 as follows:**

*§ 63.2-601.1. Statewide Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program Funding Pool.*

A. *The Department shall develop a Statewide TANF Program Funding Pool (the Funding Pool) and shall allocate to the Funding Pool that portion of the TANF block grant to be awarded to service providers for expanded TANF programs, which shall include all funds not transferred to the Child Care Development Block Grant or Social Services Block Grant, or used for cash assistance, employment services, or child-care benefits through the TANF program, up to an amount equal to 12 percent of the total amount of the TANF block grant for that year.*

B. *The Department shall award available funds from the Funding Pool to service providers providing expanded TANF programs through a competitive grant process. All programs and services funded through the Funding Pool shall comply with all federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements, and shall serve the stated purposes of the TANF program.*

C. *The Board shall adopt regulations establishing procedures for awarding funds from the Funding Pool to service providers, including:*

1. *A long-range planning and priority-setting process to identify service needs and avoid overlap or duplication of services. The planning and priority-setting process shall include the opportunity for citizen participation, and consideration of local service needs and funding priorities;*

2. *A competitive grant process for funding services, to include uniform eligibility criteria for service providers seeking funding from the Funding Pool, and uniform application and selection procedures for comparable service categories. The grant process shall include the opportunity for citizen participation in the evaluation of proposals and the awarding of Funding Pool funds, which shall include consideration of statewide needs and funding priorities;*

3. *Uniform oversight, administrative, and reporting requirements for service providers receiving funding through the Funding Pool; and*

4. *Uniform program evaluation criteria to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of comparable services funded through the Funding Pool.*

D. *The Department shall require all service providers applying for funding through the Funding Pool to submit a detailed proposal that includes a proposed budget, proposed program outcomes, and proposed program outcome measures.*

**2. That the Board of Social Services shall adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 180 days of its enactment.**

INTRODUCED

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