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HOUSE BILL NO. 1853

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled January 11, 2011

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

Patrons—Dance and Englin

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 and 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 application and award process that is designed in a manner that ensures that all service providers in the Commonwealth, regardless of size or geographic location, are afforded the opportunity to apply and compete for funds. 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 state and local service needs and avoid overlap or duplication of services. The planning and priority-setting process shall include opportunity for citizen participation and consideration of local and statewide service needs and priorities;*

2. *A competitive 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;*

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.*

INTRODUCED

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