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SENATE BILL NO. 334

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 7, 2014

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 44-146.18:3, relating to establishment of the Virginia Disaster Relief Fund.

Patron—Puckett

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 44-146.18:3 as follows:**

**§ 44-146.18:3. Virginia Disaster Relief Fund.**

There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia Disaster Relief Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All moneys as may be appropriated by the General Assembly and any gifts, bequests, grants, or donations shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purpose of helping Virginia households recover from a natural or man-made disaster. The Fund shall aid voluntary nonprofit and faith-based organizations, local recovery groups, and local governments to satisfy a disaster household's unmet needs that are serious, essential, and necessary. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the State Coordinator of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Any disbursements from the Fund to a nonprofit or faith-based organization shall be pursuant to a bona fide contract that provides in detail the specific disaster relief services that such group will provide to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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