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HOUSE BILL NO. 1085

Offered January 13, 2016 Prefiled January 13, 2016

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 62.1-44.15:29.1, relating to establishment of the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund.

Patron—Bulova

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 62.1-44.15:29.1 as follows: § 62.1-44.15:29.1. Stormwater Local Assistance Fund established; purpose.

A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. The Fund shall consist of sums appropriated to it by the General Assembly, including bond proceeds from bonds authorized by the General Assembly, and other grants, gifts, and moneys as may be made available to it from any other source, public or private. 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. The purpose of the Fund is to provide matching grants to local governments for the planning, design, and implementation of stormwater best management practices that address cost efficiency and commitments related to reducing water quality pollutant loads. Moneys in the Fund shall be used to meet (i) obligations related to the Chesapeake Bay total maximum daily load (TMDL) requirements; (ii) requirements for local impaired stream TMDL; (iii) water quality requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan; and (iv) water quality requirements related to the permitting of small municipal stormwater sewer systems. The grants shall be used solely for capital projects meeting all pre-requirements for implementation, including (a) new stormwater best management practices; (b) stormwater best management practice retrofits; (c) stream restoration; (d) low impact development projects; (e) buffer restoration; (f) pond retrofits; and (g) wetlands restoration. 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 Director of the Department.