

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 22.1 a chapter numbered 25, consisting of*  
 3 *sections numbered 22.1-362 and 22.1-363, relating to grants for science, technology, engineering,*  
 4 *and mathematics competition teams at qualified schools.*

[S 246]

Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**  
 8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 22.1 a chapter numbered 25, consisting**  
 9 **of sections numbered 22.1-362 and 22.1-363, as follows:**

## 10 CHAPTER 25.

11 SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS COMPETITION TEAM GRANT  
 12 PROGRAM AND FUND.

13 § 22.1-362. *STEM Competition Team Grant Program.*

14 A. As used in this chapter:

15 "Fund" means the STEM Competition Team Grant Fund established in § 22.1-362.

16 "Qualified school" means a public secondary school in the Commonwealth at which at least 40  
 17 percent of students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

18 "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

19 "STEM" includes computer science, computational thinking, and computer coding.

20 "STEM competition team" means an extracurricular team-building activity that has a primary  
 21 objective of engaging students in STEM-related team-building activities and may include participating in  
 22 project-based team competitions.

23 B. Beginning January 1, 2017, a qualified school may apply for a grant from the Fund. Such grant  
 24 shall be designated to establish or support STEM competition teams, not to exceed \$10,000 per school  
 25 per year. Grants shall be issued in the order that each completed eligible application is received. In the  
 26 event that the amount of eligible grants requested in a fiscal year exceeds the funds available in the  
 27 Fund, such grants shall be paid in the next fiscal year in which funds are available.

28 C. The Board shall develop guidelines setting forth the general requirements of qualifying for a  
 29 grant to include a grant application form. Such guidelines shall be exempt from the provisions of the  
 30 Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

31 § 22.1-363. *STEM Competition Team Grant Fund.*

32 From such funds as may be available from public or private sources, there is hereby created in the  
 33 state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the STEM Competition Team Grant Fund to  
 34 be administered by the Board of Education. The Fund shall be established on the books of the  
 35 Comptroller. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any  
 36 moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert  
 37 to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the  
 38 purposes of providing grants for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education  
 39 competition teams at qualified schools. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by  
 40 the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the  
 41 Superintendent of Public Instruction.

42 **2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2018.**