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SENATE BILL NO. 1080

Offered January 17, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-23.3, relating to Superintendent of Public Instruction; Urban Teacher Fund and Program; established.

Patrons—Morrissey, Mason and McClellan

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-23.3 as follows:

§ 22.1-23.3. Urban Teacher Fund and Program.

A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Urban Teacher Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All funds appropriated for such purpose and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on its behalf 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 purposes of establishing and administering the Urban Teacher Program as described in subsection B. 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 Superintendent of Public Instruction.

B. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall establish and administer the Urban Teacher Program (the Program) for the purpose of providing grants from the Fund to persons employed in urban school divisions with teacher shortages who remain employed by the urban school division for a period of at least five years. Grants provided from the Fund shall be used for the sole purpose of repaying all tuition-related higher education loans of applicants. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall adopt such rules and policies as it deems necessary for the administration of the Program, including rules and policies for grant applications and awards.

INTRODUCED

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