

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 3.2 a chapter numbered 47.1, consisting of*  
3 *sections numbered 3.2-4780 through 3.2-4783, relating to the Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance*  
4 *Program and Fund; established.*

5 [H 2203]

6 Approved

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

8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 3.2 a chapter numbered 47.1,**  
9 **consisting of sections numbered 3.2-4780 through 3.2-4783, as follows:**

10 **CHAPTER 47.1.**11 **VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**12 **§ 3.2-4780. Definitions.**13 *As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

14 *"Charitable food assistance organization" means an organization operating in Virginia that provides*  
15 *nutrition assistance to relieve situations of emergency and distress through the provision of food to*  
16 *needy persons in Virginia.*

17 *"Fund" means the Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance Fund.*18 *"VAFA Program" means the Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance Program.*19 **§ 3.2-4781. Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance Fund.**

20 *There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia*  
21 *Agriculture Food Assistance Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be*  
22 *established on the books of the Comptroller. All funds appropriated for such purpose and any gifts,*  
23 *donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on its behalf shall be paid into the state treasury*  
24 *and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be*  
25 *credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal*  
26 *year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be*  
27 *used solely for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this chapter. Expenditures and*  
28 *disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the*  
29 *Comptroller upon written request signed by the Commissioner.*

30 **§ 3.2-4782. Authority of Commissioner.**

31 *A. The Commissioner shall establish the Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance Program (VAFA*  
32 *Program) for Virginia farmers and food producers to donate, sell, or otherwise provide agriculture*  
33 *products to charitable food assistance organizations.*

34 *B. The Commissioner may contract with charitable food assistance organizations operating in*  
35 *Virginia or regional charitable food assistance organizations to carry out the provisions of this chapter.*

36 *C. The Commissioner shall provide grants from the Fund to charitable food assistance organizations*  
37 *to reimburse farmers or food producers for any costs associated with harvesting, processing, packaging,*  
38 *or transporting agriculture products donated, sold, or otherwise provided to such charitable food*  
39 *assistance organizations.*

40 *D. The Commissioner may develop guidelines and adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of*  
41 *this chapter. Such regulations shall prohibit any charitable food assistance organization that contracts*  
42 *with or receives a grant from the Commissioner from attributing more than 10 percent of the total grant*  
43 *or contract amount to administrative costs.*

44 **§ 3.2-4783. Virginia Agriculture Food Assistance Program.**45 *The VAFA Program shall:*

46 *1. Provide grants from the Fund to charitable food assistance organizations to reimburse farmers or*  
47 *food producers for any costs associated with harvesting, processing, packaging, or transporting*  
48 *agriculture products donated to such charitable food assistance organizations; and*

49 *2. Distribute agriculture products to needy persons in Virginia in accordance with the food*  
50 *distribution guidelines for each charitable food assistance organization.*