

23103302D

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2067**

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-199.8, relating to Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate (AP/IB) Exam Fee Elimination Fund and Program established.*

Patrons—Lopez, Bagby, Clark, Filler-Corn, Guzman, Kory, Price, Shin, Simon, Simonds and Watts

Referred to Committee on Education

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-199.8 as follows:**

**§ 22.1-199.8. Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Exam Fee Elimination Fund and Program.**

*A. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate (AP/IB) Exam Fee Elimination 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 awarding grants to local school divisions pursuant to the AP/IB Exam Fee Elimination Program as set forth 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.*

*B. There is hereby established the AP/IB Exam Fee Elimination Program (the Program) for the purpose of covering all applicable fees associated with taking an AP or IB examination for any public high school student who is eligible to receive free or reduced price lunch. The Program shall be administered by the Department. Pursuant to the Program, the Department shall annually transfer to each local school board a grant in a sum sufficient to cover all such fees for each such student in the local school division.*

*C. The Department shall establish such rules, policies, and procedures as it deems necessary or appropriate for the administration of the Program, including an annual process whereby each local school board demonstrates its grant funding needs.*

*D. Each local school board shall annually notify the parents of each public high school student in the local school division who is eligible for free or reduced price lunch of the opportunity for the student to take an AP or IB examination at no cost.*

**2. That the Board of Education shall transfer any unspent and unobligated federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) state reserve funds to the AP/IB Exam Fee Elimination Fund established in subsection A of § 22.1-199.8 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act.**

INTRODUCED

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