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SENATE BILL NO. 253

Offered January 18, 1996

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 22.3, consisting of a section numbered 59.1-284.13, relating to an incentive grant program to encourage the manufacturing of semiconductor memory or logic wafers.

Patrons—Colgan, Barry, Chichester, Gartlan and Waddell; Delegates: Almand, Brickley, Callahan, Dillard, Harris, Parrish, Plum, Puller, Rollison, Scott and Van Landingham

Referred to the Committee on Finance

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Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 22.3, consisting of a section numbered 59.1-284.13, as follows:

CHAPTER 22.3.

SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING PERFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAMS.

§ 59.1-284.13. Semiconductor Memory or Logic Wafer Manufacturing Performance Grant Program. A. As used in this section:

"Cumulative investment" means the total investment made by a qualified manufacturer in an eligible city since the beginning of construction of a wafer manufacturing facility.

"Eligible city" means any Virginia city having a population of no less than 27,500 and no more than

"Manufactures wafers" means manufacturing wafers in an eligible city, and includes on-site processing that increases the value of wafers by transforming raw wafers into semiconductor memory or

"Qualified manufacturer" means any manufacturer of semiconductor products who (i) has made a cumulative investment of at least one billion dollars in buildings and equipment located in an eligible city and (ii) manufactures wafers in that eligible city.

"Secretary" means the Secretary of Commerce and Trade or his designee.

"Wafer" means a semiconductor memory or logic wafer. A wafer containing mixed memory and logic circuits shall be considered a logic wafer.

B. Beginning five years after the commencement of manufacture of wafers in an eligible city, any qualified manufacturer shall be entitled to receive an annual semiconductor memory or logic wafer manufacturing performance grant in the amount of \$100 per memory wafer and \$250 per logic wafer based upon its manufacture of wafers in that city and sale of those wafers. A qualified manufacturer shall be entitled to receive annual grants under this section for a period of five years following the date its initial application for a grant is filed under subsection E, except as provided in subsection C. The grants under this section (i) shall be paid from a fund entitled the Semiconductor Memory or Logic Wafer Manufacturing Performance Grant Fund and (ii) shall not exceed in total the amounts specified in this subsection which will be based upon the cumulative investment made by the qualified manufacturer by the dates specified below:

	Eligible	Eligible	
Cumulative	Investment	Grant	Cumulative
Investment	Period	Period	Value of Grants
\$1 billion	by December 31, 1998	January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2007	\$18,600,000
\$2.5 billion	by December 31, 2002	January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2011	\$30,400,000
\$4 billion	by December 31, 2005	January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2014	\$38,400,000

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C. Any qualified manufacturer who makes (i) a cumulative investment of at least \$1 billion, but less than \$2.5 billion, shall be entitled to receive an annual grant payment of up to \$3,720,000, but the cumulative total of such grants shall not exceed \$18.6 million; (ii) a cumulative investment of at least \$2.5 billion, but less than \$4 billion, shall be entitled to receive an annual grant payment of up to \$6,080,000, but the cumulative total of such grants shall not exceed \$30.4 million; or (iii) a cumulative investment of \$4 billion or more shall be entitled to receive an annual grant payment of up to \$7,680,000, but the cumulative total of such grants shall not exceed \$38.4 million. If any qualified manufacturer, after having made the initial \$1 billion cumulative investment, achieves a higher cumulative investment level as shown in the schedule in subsection B earlier than the dates specified in that subsection, that qualified manufacturer shall immediately become eligible to receive the increased performance grant amount, if the initial five-year period from the beginning of manufacture of wafers has expired. In addition, after having made any higher investment level above the initial \$1 billion, the qualified manufacturer shall have through the last date shown in the eligible grant period to earn the full amount of the corresponding cumulative value of the performance grant. Under no circumstances shall any qualified manufacturer be eligible to receive more than \$38.4 million in grants during the duration of the program.

D. If the value of applications for grants under this section for wafers manufactured and sold exceeds one-fifth of the cumulative value in the schedule listed in subsection B for a particular calendar year, each qualified manufacturer's grant for that year shall equal the amount of the grant to which the qualified manufacturer would be entitled absent the provisions of this subsection times a fraction. The numerator of that fraction shall equal one-fifth of the cumulative value in the schedule listed in subsection B, and the denominator shall equal the aggregate dollar amount of grants to which all qualified manufacturers would be entitled absent this subsection.

E. Any qualified manufacturer entitled to receive a grant under this section shall apply for the grant and provide evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary, of the number of wafers manufactured by it in an eligible city, the number of wafers which were sold, and the amount of cumulative investment made by the qualified manufacturer. The application and the evidence shall be filed with the Secretary in person or by mail no later than March 31, or such later date determined by the Secretary in his sole discretion, each year of the program following the year which the wafers were sold. Failure to meet the application filing deadline shall render the qualified manufacturer ineligible to receive a grant for the wafers it manufactured and sold. For filings by mail, the postmark cancellation shall govern the date of the filing determination.

F. Within ninety days after the filing deadline established in subsection E, the Secretary shall certify to (i) the Comptroller and (ii) each qualified manufacturer the amount of the grant to which each qualified manufacturer is entitled under this section. Payment of such grant to any qualified manufacturer shall be made by check issued by the Treasurer of Virginia on warrant of the Comptroller within sixty days after the Secretary's certification.

G. The Secretary, upon presenting appropriate credentials, may examine the records, books, invoices, bills of lading, and other applicable documents to determine whether the manufacturing and sale of the wafers meets the requirements for the receipt of grants as set forth in this section.