

1999 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS
INTRODUCED

999847657

SENATE BILL NO. 1048

Offered January 20, 1999

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 9-178.3, establishing the Body Armor Grant Program Fund.

Patrons—Forbes, Bolling, Quayle and Schrock; Delegates: Blevins and Harris

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 9-178.3 as follows:

§ 9-178.3. Body Armor Grant Program Fund.

There is hereby established a special nonreverting fund to be administered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, known as the Body Armor Grant Program Fund. The Fund shall be used to purchase body armor for law-enforcement officers, which means any officer, agent or employee of a state or local government agency authorized by law to prevent or investigate any violation of criminal law, or to supervise sentenced or accused criminal offenders. The Fund shall be available to all law-enforcement agencies of state and local government, including publicly financed state colleges and universities within the Commonwealth.

Applications for funding shall be approved and signed by the chief executive officer of the local governing body of the jurisdiction served by the applicant law-enforcement agency or institution and by the chief executive officer of the applying law-enforcement agency and by the financial officer of the jurisdiction or institution. Applications for funding are restricted to one per law-enforcement agency in each state fiscal year.

Purchases of body armor shall be reimbursed only if made after February 1, 1999. Applications shall be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis subject to availability of funds. Applications for funding are restricted to one piece of body armor per officer and shall qualify as personal body armor. Body armor purchased shall be of a type that has been tested through the voluntary compliance testing program operated by the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center of the National Institute of Justice and found to meet the requirements of National Institute of Justice Standard 0101.03 or any subsequent revision. Applications for funding shall state that the body armor purchased has been purchased for and assigned to specific individuals and that no such body armor will be stockpiled or stored by the agency for personnel not yet hired. Applicants shall agree to comply with guidelines established for the administration of this program by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The provisions of this section shall expire on July 1, 2002.

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