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HOUSE BILL NO. 2053

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 9.1 a chapter numbered 16, consisting of a section numbered 9.1-1600, relating to Protect Virginia Grant Fund and Program created.

Patron—Glass

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 9.1 a chapter numbered 16, consisting of a section numbered 9.1-1600, as follows:

§ 9.1-1600. Protect Virginia Grant Fund and Program.

A. As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Department" means the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

"Fund" means the Protect Virginia Grant Fund.

"Payroll funds" means moneys that appropriated to the agencies within the Secretariat of Public Safety and Homeland Security in a fiscal year for the purpose of providing salaries and other compensation to employees of such agencies.

"Program" means the Protect Virginia Program.

"Surplus payroll funds" means payroll funds that at the end of a fiscal year will remain unspent due to staffing shortages or the inability to find qualified personnel.

B. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Protect Virginia Grant Fund. Prior to the close of each fiscal year, the Director of the Department shall determine whether there are any surplus payroll funds and shall deposit 10 percent of such funds into the Fund. The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All funds deposited in the Fund and any other 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 purposes of (i) awarding grants through the Program established pursuant to subsection C or (ii) implementing and administering the Program. 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 Director of the Department.

C. The Protect Virginia Program is hereby established for the purpose of awarding grants from such funds as may be available from the Fund to establishments licensed by the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for the purpose of providing adequate security for such licensed establishments. The Program shall be administered by the Department. In administering the Program, the Department shall establish and publish guidelines and criteria for grant awards. The Department shall oversee each grant awarded through the Program and ensure thorough reporting on each such grant.

INTRODUCED

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