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HOUSE BILL NO. 2055

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-279.1, relating to Office of the Chief Medical Examiner; surplus payroll funds; Medical Examiner Compensation Fund created.*

 Patron—Glass

 Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-279.1 as follows:**
§ 32.1-279.1. Medical Examiner Compensation Fund.

A. For purposes of this section,

"Fund" means the Medical Examiner Compensation Fund established by subsection C.

"Payroll funds" means moneys appropriated to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (the Office) in a fiscal year for the purpose of providing salaries and other compensation to employees of the Office.

"Surplus payroll funds" means payroll funds that at the end of each quarter of each fiscal year remain unspent due to personnel vacancies.

B. Prior to the close of each quarter of each fiscal year, the Chief Medical Examiner shall determine the amount of surplus payroll funds, if any, and shall deposit all of such funds into the Fund.

C. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Medical Examiner Compensation Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All funds deposited in the Fund pursuant to subsection B 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 the purposes of making technological upgrades or providing temporary pay, recruitment or retention bonuses, or overtime pay to personnel hired by the Office to carry out the purposes of this article. 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 Chief Medical Examiner.

D. The Chief Medical Examiner shall establish a written policy for making disbursements from the Fund, and any disbursement from the Fund shall be made in accordance with that policy. The policy shall be approved by the State Health Commissioner prior to any disbursement being made from the Fund.

INTRODUCED

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