

# 1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

995008264

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1445

Offered January 13, 1999

Prefiled October 20, 1998

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-278.1:1, relating to the School Resource Officer Grants Program and Fund.*

Patrons—Hamilton, Baker, Behm, Callahan, Cantor, Davis, Diamonstein, Dillard, Jackson, Jones, J.C., McDonnell, Morgan and Rhodes; Senators: Lambert, Norment, Williams and Woods

Referred to Committee on Education

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-278.1:1 as follows:**

*§ 22.1-278.1:1. School Resource Officer Grants Program and Fund.*

*A. From such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose and from such gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds as may be received on its behalf, there is hereby established the School Resource Officer Grants Program, to be administered by the Board of Education, and a special nonreverting fund within the state treasury known as the School Resource Officer Incentive Grants Fund, hereinafter known as the "Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller, and any moneys remaining in such Fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Interest earned on such funds shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it.*

*Subject to the authority of the Board of Education to provide for its disbursement, the Fund shall be disbursed to award matching grants to school boards to employ uniformed school resource officers in secondary schools within the relevant school division. Such school resource officers shall be certified law-enforcement officers and shall be employed to help ensure safety and to prevent violence in schools.*

*B. The Board shall establish criteria for making grants from the Fund, including procedures for determining the amount of a grant and the required local match, which shall be calculated on the basis of the composite index of local ability to pay. The Board may issue guidelines governing the Program and the employment and duties of the school resource officers as it deems necessary and appropriate.*

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