

2025 SESSION

INTRODUCED

25102940D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 2461**

2 Offered January 13, 2025

3 Prefiled January 8, 2025

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 3.2 of Title 44 a section numbered 44-146.29:5,*
5 *relating to Disaster Assistance Fund; established.*

6 Patron—O'Quinn

7 Referred to Committee on Appropriations

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

9 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 3.2 of Title 44 a section numbered**
10 **44-146.29:5 as follows:**

11 **§ 44-146.29:5. Disaster Assistance Fund.**

12 *There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Disaster*
13 *Assistance Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the*
14 *Comptroller. Notwithstanding any other provision of law (i) the proceeds generated from the*
15 *Commonwealth's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative auction that occurred in December*
16 *2023, pursuant to Article 4 (§ 10.1-1329 et seq.) of Chapter 13 of Title 10.1, and deposited into the Regional*
17 *Greenhouse Gas Initiative Fund with the Department of Environmental Quality and all interest accrued to*
18 *such fund and (ii) all funds appropriated for such purpose and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and*
19 *other funds received on its behalf shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest*
20 *earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the*
21 *Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall*
22 *remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of addressing life, safety, and*
23 *housing costs related to a disaster that are not covered by any form of federal assistance, private donations,*
24 *or insurance. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on*
25 *warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the Coordinator of Emergency*
26 *Management, but only with prior authorization from the General Assembly.*

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