

26103363D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1248**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 14, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 22.25, consisting of a*
5 *section numbered 59.1-284.46, relating to Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program established.*

6 Patron—Glass

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 22.25, consisting**
10 **of a section numbered 59.1-284.46, as follows:**11 *CHAPTER 22.25.*12 *VIRGINIA CREATIVE ECONOMY GRANT PROGRAM.*13 **§ 59.1-284.46. Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program.**14 *A. For purposes of this section:*15 *"Corporation" means the Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation.*16 *"Creative economy" means industries that have their origin in individual creativity, skill, and talent and*
17 *that have a potential for wealth and job creation through the generation and exploitation of intellectual*
18 *property, including production of audio, video, or visual content; literary or performing arts; production of*
19 *film, music, software, or video games; production of physical goods, including instruments, art, crafts,*
20 *furniture, robotics, and taxidermy; and television or radio.*21 *"Creative economy entrepreneur" means a small business or a self-employed individual who earns*
22 *income in the creative economy through creative, cultural, or artistic-based pursuits to produce ideas,*
23 *content, goods, and services.*24 *"Independent content creator" means an individual who creates original digital media content in the form*
25 *of audio, video, or visual content for entertainment purposes and with the intention of generating a profit.*26 *"Program" means the Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program.*27 *B. The Virginia Creative Economy Grant Program is hereby established for the purpose of awarding*
28 *grants on a competitive basis from such funds as may be available to independent content creators and*
29 *creative economy entrepreneurs for the purpose of developing and expanding the creative economy in the*
30 *Commonwealth. Grants shall be awarded by the Corporation, in consultation with the Virginia Commission*
31 *for the Arts established pursuant to § 23.1-3222, in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 to any independent*
32 *content creator or creative economy entrepreneur. The Program shall be administered by the Corporation, in*
33 *consultation with the Virginia Commission for the Arts. In administering the Program, the Corporation, in*
34 *consultation with the Virginia Commission for the Arts, shall establish and publish guidelines and criteria for*
35 *grant awards, including guidelines and criteria governing agreements between the Corporation and grant*
36 *recipients relating to the use of grant funds. All funds appropriated by the General Assembly for use in the*
37 *Program and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on its behalf shall be paid into*
38 *the state treasury. Any such funds shall be used solely for purposes of (i) awarding grants on a competitive*
39 *basis through the Program or (ii) implementing and administering the Program.*

INTRODUCED

HB1248