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By: **Senators Exum, Colburn, Collins, Currie, Della, Dyson, Hafer, Kelley,  
and Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Victims of Terror Relief Fund**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Victims of Terror Relief Fund; providing for the  
4 purposes of the Fund; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally  
5 relating to the Victims of Terror Relief Fund.

6 BY adding to

7 Article - State Finance and Procurement  
8 Section 7-328  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2001 Replacement Volume)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - State Finance and Procurement**

14 7-328.

15 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "FUND" MEANS THE VICTIMS OF TERROR RELIEF FUND.

16 (B) THERE IS A VICTIMS OF TERROR RELIEF FUND.

17 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO ASSIST WORKERS WHO CAN DOCUMENT  
18 THAT THEY LOST THEIR JOBS OR WERE LAID OFF AS A RESULT OF THE TERRORIST  
19 ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001. THE FUNDS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PAY  
20 DELINQUENT RENTS, MORTGAGES, UTILITIES, AND CAR PAYMENTS.

21 (D) THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL ADMINISTER THE  
22 FUND.

23 (E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND WHICH IS NOT SUBJECT  
24 TO § 7-302 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

1           (2)     THE TREASURER SHALL SEPARATELY HOLD AND THE COMPTROLLER  
2 SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

3     (F)     THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

4           (1)     EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF MONEYS IN THE FUND; AND

5           (2)     ANY OTHER MONEYS ACCEPTED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND  
6 FROM ANY GOVERNMENTAL OR PRIVATE SOURCE.

7     (G)     THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE PAYMENT OF LAID OFF  
8 WORKERS':

9           (1)     DELINQUENT RENT;

10          (2)     DELINQUENT MORTGAGE PAYMENTS;

11          (3)     UTILITY BILLS; AND

12          (4)     DELINQUENT CAR PAYMENTS.

13     (H)     PAYMENTS FROM THE FUND SHALL BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE  
14 CREDITOR OF THE ELIGIBLE PERSON.

15     (I)     ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS MAY APPLY UP TO TWO TIMES FOR ASSISTANCE  
16 FROM THE FUND.

17     (J)     THE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND IN THE SAME  
18 MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

19     (K)     ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED TO THE  
20 GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.

21     (L)     EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN ACCORDANCE  
22 WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

23     (M)     THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS  
24 TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

25     SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 July 1, 2002. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30,  
27 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be  
28 abrogated and of no further force and effect.