

Amendment: 13

STATEWIDE REVENUE

Representative **G.M. SMITH** proposes the following amendment:

New:

118. rrf. (SR: Disaster Relief and Resilience Reserve Fund) There is created in the State Treasury the Disaster Relief and Resilience Reserve Fund, which shall be separate and distinct from the General Fund and all other reserve funds. Funds appropriated to the fund may only be used for disaster relief assistance, hazard mitigation and infrastructure improvements, and statewide resilience planning. Interest accrued by the fund must remain in the fund and unexpended funds shall be retained and carried forward to be used for the same purposes.

For the purposes of this provision, disaster relief assistance includes, but is not limited to:

(a) financial assistance to state and local government entities to provide the non-federal cost share for federal disaster assistance programs;

(b) infrastructure repairs for homeowners and communities that are not eligible for Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) and other federal funding assistance;

(c) loans and grants to local governments in disaster areas that need immediate cash flow assistance;

(d) grants to governmental entities and organizations exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code to repair or replace infrastructure or equipment damaged as a result of a natural disaster; and

(e) financial assistance for verifiable losses of agricultural commodities due to a natural disaster.

For the purposes of this provision, hazard mitigation and infrastructure improvements includes, but is not limited to:

(a) mitigation buyouts, relocations, and buyout assistance for homes not covered by Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;

(b) gap funding related to buyouts in order to move residents out of floodplains;

(c) flood insurance subsidies for low- and moderate-income homeowners; and

(d) loans and grants to state and local government entities for hazard mitigation and infrastructure improvement projects.

For the purposes of this provision, statewide resilience planning includes, but is not limited to:

(a) development and implementation of a strategic statewide resilience plan;

(b) coordination of statewide disaster recovery efforts and activities and collaboration between federal, state, and local stakeholders;

(c) technical planning assistance for state and local government entities; and

(d) grants to institutions of higher education and other state and local government entities to conduct research related to resilience concerns specific to South Carolina.