

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2000 SESSION

CHAPTER 704

An Act to amend and reenact § 2.1-508 of the Code of Virginia, relating to location of state capital projects.

[S 670]

Approved April 8, 2000

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.1-508 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.1-508. State agencies, institutions, to inquire of Division before acquiring land for capital improvements; evaluate feasibility of siting facilities in urban centers.

A. Any state department, agency or institution shall, before purchasing or otherwise acquiring land for any capital improvement inquire of the Department of General Services whether there is available any suitable land under the control of the Division of Engineering and Buildings or any other state department, agency or institution which can be authorized for the purpose for which additional land is needed.

B. *The Department of General Services shall require every state department, agency or institution responsible for the construction, operation or maintenance of public facilities within the Commonwealth, when siting state facilities and programs, to evaluate the feasibility of siting such facilities and programs in the Commonwealth's urban centers. In making such evaluation, the agency shall consider (i) the fiscal advantages of utilizing the existing infrastructure available in urban centers as compared to the construction of new infrastructure in less developed areas, (ii) the potential savings associated with leasing facilities from the private sector in urban centers as compared to purchasing or constructing new facilities in other areas, (iii) the convenience to employees and citizen users of state facilities and programs of placing such facilities and programs in close proximity to the road and transportation systems and other amenities found in the Commonwealth's urban centers, and (iv) whether the local governing body is supportive of the location as a desirable use of available land resources.*

This subsection shall not be construed to limit the ability of a state department, agency or institution to locate facilities based on other factors such as a rural locality's desire to stimulate economic development or the need to have regionally dispersed services.

C. *The provisions of subsection B shall not apply to any facility or program to be located on the campus of any public institution of higher education.*