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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1327**

House Amendments in [ ] — February 9, 2000

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.1-342.01, 2.1-717, 2.1-724, and 2.1-725 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Freedom of Information Act; records exemption for local human rights councils.*

Patron—Almand

Referred to Committee on General Laws

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

**1. That §§ 2.1-342.01, 2.1-717, 2.1-724, and 2.1-725 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.1-342.01. Exclusions to application of chapter.

A. The following records are excluded from the provisions of this chapter but may be disclosed by the custodian in his discretion, except where such disclosure is prohibited by law:

1. Confidential records of all investigations of applications for licenses and permits, and all licensees and permittees made by or submitted to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, the State Lottery Department, the Virginia Racing Commission, or the Charitable Gaming Commission.

2. State income, business, and estate tax returns, personal property tax returns, scholastic and confidential records held pursuant to § 58.1-3.

3. Scholastic records containing information concerning identifiable individuals, except that such access shall not be denied to the person who is the subject thereof, or the parent or legal guardian of the student. However, no student shall have access to (i) financial records of a parent or guardian or (ii) records of instructional, supervisory, and administrative personnel and educational personnel ancillary thereto, which are in the sole possession of the maker thereof and which are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a substitute.

The parent or legal guardian of a student may prohibit, by written request, the release of any individual information regarding that student until the student reaches the age of eighteen years. For scholastic records of students under the age of eighteen years, the right of access may be asserted only by his legal guardian or parent, including a noncustodial parent, unless such parent's parental rights have been terminated or a court of competent jurisdiction has restricted or denied such access. For scholastic records of students who are emancipated or attending a state-supported institution of higher education, the right of access may be asserted by the student.

Any person who is the subject of any scholastic record and who is eighteen years of age or older may waive, in writing, the protections afforded by this subdivision. If the protections are so waived, the public body shall open such records for inspection and copying.

4. Personnel records containing information concerning identifiable individuals, except that access shall not be denied to the person who is the subject thereof. Any person who is the subject of any personnel record and who is eighteen years of age or older may waive, in writing, the protections afforded by this subdivision. If the protections are so waived, the public body shall open such records for inspection and copying.

5. Medical and mental records, except that such records may be personally reviewed by the subject person or a physician of the subject person's choice. However, the subject person's mental records may not be personally reviewed by such person when the subject person's treating physician has made a part of such person's records a written statement that in his opinion a review of such records by the subject person would be injurious to the subject person's physical or mental health or well-being.

Where the person who is the subject of medical records is confined in a state or local correctional facility, the administrator or chief medical officer of such facility may assert such confined person's right of access to the medical records if the administrator or chief medical officer has reasonable cause to believe that such confined person has an infectious disease or other medical condition from which other persons so confined need to be protected. Medical records shall only be reviewed and shall not be copied by such administrator or chief medical officer. The information in the medical records of a person so confined shall continue to be confidential and shall not be disclosed by the administrator or chief medical officer of the facility to any person except the subject or except as provided by law.

For the purposes of this chapter, statistical summaries of incidents and statistical data concerning patient abuse as may be compiled by the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services shall be open to inspection and copying as provided in § 2.1-342. No such summaries or data shall include any patient-identifying information. Where the person who is the subject of medical and mental records is under the age of eighteen, his right of access

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60 may be asserted only by his guardian or his parent, including a noncustodial parent, unless such parent's  
61 parental rights have been terminated or a court of competent jurisdiction has restricted or denied such  
62 access. In instances where the person who is the subject thereof is an emancipated minor or a student in  
63 a public institution of higher education, the right of access may be asserted by the subject person.

64 6. Working papers and correspondence of the Office of the Governor; Lieutenant Governor; the  
65 Attorney General; the members of the General Assembly or the Division of Legislative Services; the  
66 mayor or chief executive officer of any political subdivision of the Commonwealth; or the president or  
67 other chief executive officer of any public institution of higher education. However, no record which is  
68 otherwise open to inspection under this chapter shall be deemed exempt by virtue of the fact that it has  
69 been attached to or incorporated within any working paper or correspondence.

70 As used in this subdivision:

71 "Working papers" means those records prepared by or for an above-named public official for his  
72 personal or deliberative use.

73 "Office of the Governor" means the Governor; his chief of staff, counsel, director of policy, Cabinet  
74 Secretaries, and the Director of the Virginia Liaison Office; and those individuals to whom the Governor  
75 has delegated his authority pursuant to § 2.1-39.1.

76 7. Written advice of the county, city and town attorneys to their local government clients and any  
77 other records protected by the attorney-client privilege.

78 8. Legal memoranda and other work product compiled specifically for use in litigation or for use in  
79 an active administrative investigation concerning a matter which is properly the subject of a closed  
80 meeting under § 2.1-344.

81 9. Confidential letters and statements of recommendation placed in the records of educational  
82 agencies or institutions respecting (i) admission to any educational agency or institution, (ii) an  
83 application for employment, or (iii) receipt of an honor or honorary recognition.

84 10. Library records which can be used to identify both (i) any library patron who has borrowed  
85 material from a library and (ii) the material such patron borrowed.

86 11. Any test or examination used, administered or prepared by any public body for purposes of  
87 evaluation of (i) any student or any student's performance, (ii) any employee or employment seeker's  
88 qualifications or aptitude for employment, retention, or promotion, or (iii) qualifications for any license  
89 or certificate issued by a public body.

90 As used in this subdivision, "test or examination" shall include (i) any scoring key for any such test  
91 or examination and (ii) any other document which would jeopardize the security of the test or  
92 examination. Nothing contained in this subdivision shall prohibit the release of test scores or results as  
93 provided by law, or limit access to individual records as provided by law. However, the subject of such  
94 employment tests shall be entitled to review and inspect all records relative to his performance on such  
95 employment tests.

96 When, in the reasonable opinion of such public body, any such test or examination no longer has any  
97 potential for future use, and the security of future tests or examinations will not be jeopardized, the test  
98 or examination shall be made available to the public. However, minimum competency tests administered  
99 to public school children shall be made available to the public contemporaneously with statewide release  
100 of the scores of those taking such tests, but in no event shall such tests be made available to the public  
101 later than six months after the administration of such tests.

102 12. Applications for admission to examinations or for licensure and scoring records maintained by  
103 the Department of Health Professions or any board in that department on individual licensees or  
104 applicants. However, such material may be made available during normal working hours for copying, at  
105 the requester's expense, by the individual who is the subject thereof, in the offices of the Department of  
106 Health Professions or in the offices of any health regulatory board, whichever may possess the material.

107 13. Records of active investigations being conducted by the Department of Health Professions or by  
108 any health regulatory board in the Commonwealth.

109 14. Records recorded in or compiled exclusively for use in closed meetings lawfully held pursuant to  
110 § 2.1-344. However, no record which is otherwise open to inspection under this chapter shall be deemed  
111 exempt by virtue of the fact that it has been reviewed or discussed in a closed meeting.

112 15. Reports, documentary evidence and other information as specified in §§ 2.1-373.2 and 63.1-55.4.

113 16. Proprietary information gathered by or for the Virginia Port Authority as provided in  
114 § 62.1-132.4 or § 62.1-134.1.

115 17. Contract cost estimates prepared for the confidential use of the Department of Transportation in  
116 awarding contracts for construction or the purchase of goods or services, and records and automated  
117 systems prepared for the Department's Bid Analysis and Monitoring Program.

118 18. Vendor proprietary information software which may be in the official records of a public body.  
119 For the purpose of this subdivision, "vendor proprietary software" means computer programs acquired  
120 from a vendor for purposes of processing data for agencies or political subdivisions of the  
121 Commonwealth.

19. Financial statements not publicly available filed with applications for industrial development financings.

20. Data, records or information of a proprietary nature produced or collected by or for faculty or staff of public institutions of higher education, other than the institutions' financial or administrative records, in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, scientific, technical or scholarly issues, whether sponsored by the institution alone or in conjunction with a governmental body or a private concern, where such data, records or information has not been publicly released, published, copyrighted or patented.

21. Lists of registered owners of bonds issued by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, whether the lists are maintained by the political subdivision itself or by a single fiduciary designated by the political subdivision.

22. Confidential proprietary records, voluntarily provided by private business pursuant to a promise of confidentiality from the Department of Business Assistance, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, the Virginia Tourism Authority, or local or regional industrial or economic development authorities or organizations, used by the Department, the Partnership, the Authority, or such entities for business, trade and tourism development; and memoranda, working papers or other records related to businesses that are considering locating or expanding in Virginia, prepared by the Partnership, where competition or bargaining is involved and where, if such records are made public, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

23. Information which was filed as confidential under the Toxic Substances Information Act (§ 32.1-239 et seq.), as such Act existed prior to July 1, 1992.

24. Confidential records, including victim identity, provided to or obtained by staff in a rape crisis center or a program for battered spouses.

25. Computer software developed by or for a state agency, state-supported institution of higher education or political subdivision of the Commonwealth.

26. Investigator notes, and other correspondence and information, furnished in confidence with respect to an active investigation of individual employment discrimination complaints made to the Department of Personnel and Training. However, nothing in this section shall prohibit the disclosure of information taken from inactive reports in a form which does not reveal the identity of charging parties, persons supplying the information or other individuals involved in the investigation.

27. Fisheries data which would permit identification of any person or vessel, except when required by court order as specified in § 28.2-204.

28. Records of active investigations being conducted by the Department of Medical Assistance Services pursuant to Chapter 10 (§ 32.1-323 et seq.) of Title 32.1.

29. Records and writings furnished by a member of the General Assembly to a meeting of a standing committee, special committee or subcommittee of his house established solely for the purpose of reviewing members' annual disclosure statements and supporting materials filed under § 2.1-639.40 or of formulating advisory opinions to members on standards of conduct, or both.

30. Customer account information of a public utility affiliated with a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, including the customer's name and service address, but excluding the amount of utility service provided and the amount of money paid for such utility service.

31. Investigative notes and other correspondence and information furnished in confidence with respect to an investigation or conciliation process involving an alleged unlawful discriminatory practice under the Virginia Human Rights Act (§ 2.1-714 et seq.) *or under any local ordinance adopted [ pursuant to in accordance with the authority specified in ] § 2.1-724 [ or adopted prior to July 1, 1987, in accordance with applicable law, ] relating to local human rights or human relations commissions.* However, nothing in this section shall prohibit the distribution of information taken from inactive reports in a form which does not reveal the identity of the parties involved or other persons supplying information.

32. Investigative notes; proprietary information not published, copyrighted or patented; information obtained from employee personnel records; personally identifiable information regarding residents, clients or other recipients of services; and other correspondence and information furnished in confidence to the Department of Social Services in connection with an active investigation of an applicant or licensee pursuant to Chapters 9 (§ 63.1-172 et seq.) and 10 (§ 63.1-195 et seq.) of Title 63.1. However, nothing in this section shall prohibit disclosure of information from the records of completed investigations in a form that does not reveal the identity of complainants, persons supplying information, or other individuals involved in the investigation.

33. Personal information, as defined in § 2.1-379, (i) filed with the Virginia Housing Development Authority concerning individuals who have applied for or received loans or other housing assistance or who have applied for occupancy of or have occupied housing financed, owned or otherwise assisted by the Virginia Housing Development Authority, (ii) concerning persons participating in or persons on the

183 waiting list for federally funded rent-assistance programs, or (iii) filed with any local redevelopment and  
184 housing authority created pursuant to § 36-4 concerning persons participating in or persons on the  
185 waiting list for housing assistance programs funded by local governments or by any such authority.  
186 However, access to one's own information shall not be denied.

187 34. Records regarding the siting of hazardous waste facilities, except as provided in § 10.1-1441, if  
188 disclosure of them would have a detrimental effect upon the negotiating position of a governing body or  
189 on the establishment of the terms, conditions and provisions of the siting agreement.

190 35. Appraisals and cost estimates of real property subject to a proposed purchase, sale or lease, prior  
191 to the completion of such purchase, sale or lease.

192 36. Records containing information on the site specific location of rare, threatened, endangered or  
193 otherwise imperiled plant and animal species, natural communities, caves, and significant historic and  
194 archaeological sites if, in the opinion of the public body which has the responsibility for such  
195 information, disclosure of the information would jeopardize the continued existence or the integrity of  
196 the resource. This exemption shall not apply to requests from the owner of the land upon which the  
197 resource is located.

198 37. Records, memoranda, working papers, graphics, video or audio tapes, production models, data  
199 and information of a proprietary nature produced by or for or collected by or for the State Lottery  
200 Department relating to matters of a specific lottery game design, development, production, operation,  
201 ticket price, prize structure, manner of selecting the winning ticket, manner of payment of prizes to  
202 holders of winning tickets, frequency of drawings or selections of winning tickets, odds of winning,  
203 advertising, or marketing, where such official records have not been publicly released, published,  
204 copyrighted or patented. Whether released, published or copyrighted, all game-related information shall  
205 be subject to public disclosure under this chapter upon the first day of sales for the specific lottery game  
206 to which it pertains.

207 38. Records of studies and investigations by the State Lottery Department of (i) lottery agents, (ii)  
208 lottery vendors, (iii) lottery crimes under §§ 58.1-4014 through 58.1-4018, (iv) defects in the law or  
209 regulations which cause abuses in the administration and operation of the lottery and any evasions of  
210 such provisions, or (v) the use of the lottery as a subterfuge for organized crime and illegal gambling  
211 where such official records have not been publicly released, published or copyrighted. All studies and  
212 investigations referred to under clauses (iii), (iv) and (v) shall be open to inspection and copying upon  
213 completion of the study or investigation.

214 39. Those portions of engineering and construction drawings and plans submitted for the sole purpose  
215 of complying with the Building Code in obtaining a building permit which would identify specific trade  
216 secrets or other information the disclosure of which would be harmful to the competitive position of the  
217 owner or lessee. However, such information shall be exempt only until the building is completed.  
218 Information relating to the safety or environmental soundness of any building shall not be exempt from  
219 disclosure.

220 40. Records concerning reserves established in specific claims administered by the Department of  
221 General Services through its Division of Risk Management as provided in Article 5.1 (§ 2.1-526.1 et  
222 seq.) of Chapter 32 of this title, or by any county, city, or town.

223 41. Information and records collected for the designation and verification of trauma centers and other  
224 specialty care centers within the Statewide Emergency Medical Services System and Services pursuant to  
225 Article 2.1 (§ 32.1-111.1 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 32.1.

226 42. Reports and court documents required to be kept confidential pursuant to § 37.1-67.3.

227 43. Investigative notes, correspondence and information furnished in confidence, and records  
228 otherwise exempted by this chapter or any Virginia statute, provided to or produced by or for the (i)  
229 Auditor of Public Accounts; (ii) Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; (iii) Department of the  
230 State Internal Auditor with respect to an investigation initiated through the State Employee Fraud, Waste  
231 and Abuse Hotline; or (iv) the committee or the auditor with respect to an investigation or audit  
232 conducted pursuant to § 15.2-825. Records of completed investigations shall be disclosed in a form that  
233 does not reveal the identity of the complainants or persons supplying information to investigators.  
234 Unless disclosure is prohibited by this section, the records disclosed shall include, but not be limited to,  
235 the agency involved, the identity of the person who is the subject of the complaint, the nature of the  
236 complaint, and the actions taken to resolve the complaint. If an investigation does not lead to corrective  
237 action, the identity of the person who is the subject of the complaint may be released only with the  
238 consent of the subject person.

239 44. Data formerly required to be submitted to the Commissioner of Health relating to the  
240 establishment of new or the expansion of existing clinical health services, acquisition of major medical  
241 equipment, or certain projects requiring capital expenditures pursuant to former § 32.1-102.3:4.

242 45. Documentation or other information which describes the design, function, operation or access  
243 control features of any security system, whether manual or automated, which is used to control access to  
244 or use of any automated data processing or telecommunications system.

46. Confidential financial statements, balance sheets, trade secrets, and revenue and cost projections provided to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, provided such information is exempt under the federal Freedom of Information Act or the federal Interstate Commerce Act or other laws administered by the Surface Transportation Board or the Federal Railroad Administration with respect to data provided in confidence to the Surface Transportation Board and the Federal Railroad Administration.

47. In the case of corporations organized by the Virginia Retirement System (i) proprietary information provided by, and financial information concerning, coventurers, partners, lessors, lessees, or investors and (ii) records concerning the condition, acquisition, disposition, use, leasing, development, coventuring, or management of real estate, the disclosure of which would have a substantial adverse impact on the value of such real estate or result in a competitive disadvantage to the corporation or subsidiary.

48. Confidential proprietary records related to inventory and sales, voluntarily provided by private energy suppliers to the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, used by that Department for energy contingency planning purposes or for developing consolidated statistical information on energy supplies.

49. Confidential proprietary information furnished to the Board of Medical Assistance Services or the Medicaid Prior Authorization Advisory Committee pursuant to Article 4 (§ 32.1-331.12 et seq.) of Chapter 10 of Title 32.1.

50. Proprietary, commercial or financial information, balance sheets, trade secrets, and revenue and cost projections provided by a private transportation business to the Virginia Department of Transportation and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation for the purpose of conducting transportation studies needed to obtain grants or other financial assistance under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (P.L. 105-178) for transportation projects, provided such information is exempt under the federal Freedom of Information Act or the federal Interstate Commerce Act or other laws administered by the Surface Transportation Board or the Federal Railroad Administration with respect to data provided in confidence to the Surface Transportation Board and the Federal Railroad Administration. However, the exemption provided by this subdivision shall not apply to any wholly owned subsidiary of a public body.

51. Names and addresses of subscribers to Virginia Wildlife magazine, published by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, provided the individual subscriber has requested in writing that the Department not release such information.

52. Information required to be provided pursuant to § 54.1-2506.1.

53. Confidential information designated as provided in subsection D of § 11-52 as trade secrets or proprietary information by any person who has submitted to a public body an application for prequalification to bid on public construction projects in accordance with subsection B of § 11-46.

54. All information and records acquired during a review of any child death by the State Child Fatality Review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.1, during a review of any child death by a local or regional child fatality review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.2, and all information and records acquired during a review of any death by a family violence fatality review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.3.

55. Financial, medical, rehabilitative and other personal information concerning applicants for or recipients of loan funds submitted to or maintained by the Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority under Chapter 11 (§ 51.5-53 et seq.) of Title 51.5.

56. Confidential proprietary records which are voluntarily provided by a private entity pursuant to a proposal filed with a public entity under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 56-556 et seq.), pursuant to a promise of confidentiality from the responsible public entity, used by the responsible public entity for purposes related to the development of a qualifying transportation facility; and memoranda, working papers or other records related to proposals filed under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995, where, if such records were made public, the financial interest of the public or private entity involved with such proposal or the process of competition or bargaining would be adversely affected. In order for confidential proprietary information to be excluded from the provisions of this chapter, the private entity shall (i) invoke such exclusion upon submission of the data or other materials for which protection from disclosure is sought, (ii) identify the data or other materials for which protection is sought, and (iii) state the reasons why protection is necessary. For the purposes of this subdivision, the terms "public entity" and "private entity" shall be defined as they are defined in the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995.

57. Records of law-enforcement agencies, to the extent that such records contain specific tactical plans, the disclosure of which would jeopardize the safety or security of law-enforcement personnel or the general public; or records of emergency service agencies to the extent that such records contain specific tactical plans relating to antiterrorist activity.

58. All records of the University of Virginia or the University of Virginia Medical Center which

306 contain proprietary, business-related information pertaining to the operations of the University of  
307 Virginia Medical Center, including its business development or marketing strategies and its activities  
308 with existing or future joint venturers, partners, or other parties with whom the University of Virginia  
309 Medical Center has formed, or forms, any arrangement for the delivery of health care, if disclosure of  
310 such information would be harmful to the competitive position of the Medical Center.

311 59. Patient level data collected by the Board of Health and not yet processed, verified, and released,  
312 pursuant to § 32.1-276.9, to the Board by the nonprofit organization with which the Commissioner of  
313 Health has contracted pursuant to § 32.1-276.4.

314 60. Records of the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals Authority pertaining to any of the  
315 following: an individual's qualifications for or continued membership on its medical or teaching staffs;  
316 proprietary information gathered by or in the possession of the Authority from third parties pursuant to a  
317 promise of confidentiality; contract cost estimates prepared for confidential use in awarding contracts for  
318 construction or the purchase of goods or services; data, records or information of a proprietary nature  
319 produced or collected by or for the Authority or members of its medical or teaching staffs; financial  
320 statements not publicly available that may be filed with the Authority from third parties; the identity,  
321 accounts or account status of any customer of the Authority; consulting or other reports paid for by the  
322 Authority to assist the Authority in connection with its strategic planning and goals; and the  
323 determination of marketing and operational strategies where disclosure of such strategies would be  
324 harmful to the competitive position of the Authority; and data, records or information of a proprietary  
325 nature produced or collected by or for employees of the Authority, other than the Authority's financial  
326 or administrative records, in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, scientific,  
327 technical or scholarly issues, whether sponsored by the Authority alone or in conjunction with a  
328 governmental body or a private concern, when such data, records or information have not been publicly  
329 released, published, copyrighted or patented.

330 61. Confidential proprietary information or trade secrets, not publicly available, provided by a private  
331 person or entity to the Virginia Resources Authority or to a fund administered in connection with  
332 financial assistance rendered or to be rendered by the Virginia Resources Authority where, if such  
333 information were made public, the financial interest of the private person or entity would be adversely  
334 affected, and, after June 30, 1997, where such information was provided pursuant to a promise of  
335 confidentiality.

336 62. Confidential proprietary records which are provided by a franchisee under § 15.2-2108 to its  
337 franchising authority pursuant to a promise of confidentiality from the franchising authority which  
338 relates to the franchisee's potential provision of new services, adoption of new technologies or  
339 implementation of improvements, where such new services, technologies or improvements have not been  
340 implemented by the franchisee on a nonexperimental scale in the franchise area, and where, if such  
341 records were made public, the competitive advantage or financial interests of the franchisee would be  
342 adversely affected. In order for confidential proprietary information to be excluded from the provisions  
343 of this chapter, the franchisee shall (i) invoke such exclusion upon submission of the data or other  
344 materials for which protection from disclosure is sought, (ii) identify the data or other materials for  
345 which protection is sought, and (iii) state the reason why protection is necessary.

346 63. Records of the Intervention Program Committee within the Department of Health Professions, to  
347 the extent such records may identify any practitioner who may be, or who is actually, impaired to the  
348 extent disclosure is prohibited by § 54.1-2517.

349 64. Records submitted as a grant application, or accompanying a grant application, to the  
350 Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Advisory Board pursuant to Article 12 (§ 32.1-73.1 et seq.) of  
351 Chapter 2 of Title 32.1, to the extent such records contain (i) medical or mental records, or other data  
352 identifying individual patients or (ii) proprietary business or research-related information produced or  
353 collected by the applicant in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, rehabilitative,  
354 scientific, technical or scholarly issues, when such information has not been publicly released, published,  
355 copyrighted or patented, if the disclosure of such information would be harmful to the competitive  
356 position of the applicant.

357 65. Information which would disclose the security aspects of a system safety program plan adopted  
358 pursuant to 49 C.F.R. Part 659 by the Commonwealth's designated Rail Fixed Guideway Systems Safety  
359 Oversight agency; and information in the possession of such agency, the release of which would  
360 jeopardize the success of an ongoing investigation of a rail accident or other incident threatening railway  
361 safety.

362 66. Documents and other information of a proprietary nature furnished by a supplier of charitable  
363 gaming supplies to the Charitable Gaming Commission pursuant to subsection E of § 18.2-340.34.

364 67. Personal information, as defined in § 2.1-379, provided to the Board of the Virginia Higher  
365 Education Tuition Trust Fund or its employees by or on behalf of individuals who have requested  
366 information about, applied for, or entered into prepaid tuition contracts or savings trust account  
367 agreements pursuant to Chapter 4.9 (§ 23-38.75 et seq.) of Title 23. Nothing in this subdivision shall be

construed to prohibit disclosure or publication of information in a statistical or other form which does not identify individuals or provide personal information. Individuals shall be provided access to their own personal information.

68. Any record copied, recorded or received by the Commissioner of Health in the course of an examination, investigation or review of a managed care health insurance plan licensee pursuant to §§ 32.1-137.4 and 32.1-137.5, including books, records, files, accounts, papers, documents, and any or all computer or other recordings.

69. Engineering and architectural drawings, operational, procedural, tactical planning or training manuals, or staff meeting minutes or other records, the disclosure of which would reveal surveillance techniques, personnel deployments, alarm systems or technologies, or operational and transportation plans or protocols, to the extent such disclosure would jeopardize the security or employee safety of (i) the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts or any of its warehouses; (ii) any government store or warehouse controlled by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control; (iii) any courthouse, jail, detention or law-enforcement facility; or (iv) any correctional or juvenile facility or institution under the supervision of the Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice.

70. Records and reports related to Virginia apple producer sales provided to the Virginia State Apple Board pursuant to §§ 3.1-622 and 3.1-624.

B. Neither any provision of this chapter nor any provision of Chapter 26 (§ 2.1-377 et seq.) of this title shall be construed as denying public access to (i) contracts between a public official and a public body, other than contracts settling public employee employment disputes held confidential as personnel records under subdivision 4 of subsection A; (ii) records of the position, job classification, official salary or rate of pay of, and records of the allowances or reimbursements for expenses paid to any officer, official or employee of a public body; or (iii) the compensation or benefits paid by any corporation organized by the Virginia Retirement System or its officers or employees. The provisions of this subsection, however, shall not require public access to records of the official salaries or rates of pay of public employees whose annual rate of pay is \$10,000 or less.

C. No provision of this chapter shall be construed to afford any rights to any person incarcerated in a state, local or federal correctional facility, whether or not such facility is (i) located in the Commonwealth or (ii) operated pursuant to the Corrections Private Management Act (§ 53.1-261 et seq.). However, this subsection shall not be construed to prevent an incarcerated person from exercising his constitutionally protected rights, including, but not limited to, his rights to call for evidence in his favor in a criminal prosecution.

§ 2.1-717. Construction of chapter; other programs to aid persons with disabilities, minors and the elderly.

The provisions of this chapter shall be construed liberally for the accomplishment of the policies herein. Nothing contained in this chapter shall be deemed to repeal, supersede or expand upon any of the provisions of any other state or federal law relating to discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, age, marital status, or disability.

Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit or alter any program, service, facility, school, or privilege which is afforded, oriented or restricted to a person because of disability or age from continuing to habilitate, rehabilitate, or accommodate that person.

In addition, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to affect any governmental program, law or activity differentiating between persons on the basis of age over the age of eighteen years (i) where such differentiation is reasonably necessary to normal operation or such activity is based upon reasonable factors other than age or (ii) where such program, law or activity constitutes a legitimate exercise of powers of the Commonwealth for the general health, safety and welfare of the population at large.

Complaints filed with the Council alleging unlawful discriminatory practice under a Virginia statute which is enforced by a Virginia agency shall be referred to such agency. The Council may investigate complaints alleging an unlawful discriminatory practice under a federal statute or regulation and attempt to resolve same through conciliation. Unsolved complaints shall thereafter be referred to the federal agency with jurisdiction over the complaint. Upon such referral, the Council shall have no further jurisdiction over the complaint. The Council shall have no jurisdiction over any complaint filed under a local ordinance adopted pursuant to ~~§ 15.1-37.3~~ *15.2-965*.

§ 2.1-724. Powers of local commissions.

A local human rights or human relations commission established prior to the effective date of this chapter, in addition to the powers granted under this chapter, may exercise any such additional powers as may have been granted heretofore to that commission pursuant to applicable provisions of ~~§§ 15.1-687.3, 15.1-783.1 and 15.1-783.2~~ *15.2-725, 15.2-853 and 15.2-854* or municipal charter provisions.

§ 2.1-725. Causes of action not created.

A. Nothing in this chapter creates, nor shall it be construed to create, an independent or private cause

429 of action to enforce its provisions, except as specifically provided in subsections B and C of this section.

430 B. No employer employing more than five but less than fifteen persons shall discharge any such  
431 employee on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related  
432 medical conditions, or of age if the employee is forty years or older.

433 C. The employee may bring an action in a general district or circuit court having jurisdiction over  
434 the employer who allegedly discharged the employee in violation of this section. Any such action shall  
435 be brought within 180 days from the date of the discharge. The court may award up to twelve months'  
436 back pay with interest at the judgment rate as provided in § 6.1-330.54. However, if the court finds that  
437 either party engaged in tactics to delay resolution of the complaint, it may (i) diminish the award or (ii)  
438 award back pay to the date of judgment without regard to the twelve-month limitation.

439 In any case where the employee prevails, the court shall award attorney's fees from the amount  
440 recovered, not to exceed twenty-five percent of the back pay awarded. The court shall not award other  
441 damages, compensatory or punitive, nor shall it order reinstatement of the employee.

442 D. Causes of action based upon the public policies reflected in this chapter shall be exclusively  
443 limited to those actions, procedures and remedies, if any, afforded by applicable federal or state civil  
444 rights statutes or local ordinances. Nothing in this section or § 2.1-715 shall be deemed to alter,  
445 supersede, or otherwise modify the authority of the Council on Human Rights or of any local human  
446 rights or human relations commissions established pursuant to §§ ~~15.1-37.3:8~~ and ~~15.1-783.1~~ 15.2-853  
447 and 15.2-965 or subject to the provisions of § 2.1-724.