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SENATE BILL NO. 648

Offered January 18, 2002

A *BILL* to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 25 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 7, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2518 through 2.2-2520, relating to the Business Advisory Commission on Quality Child Care Financing.

Patron—Miller, Y.B.

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 25 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 7, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2518 through 2.2-2520 as follows:

*Article 7.**Business Advisory Commission on Quality Child Care Financing.*

§ 2.2-2518. *Commission established; purpose.*

The Business Advisory Commission on Quality Child Care Financing ("Commission") is established as an advisory commission within the meaning of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government. The purpose of the Commission shall be to advise the Governor on strategies to secure adequate financing of child care facilities and services in order to promote economic growth and the general welfare of the people of the Commonwealth.

§ 2.2-2519. *Membership; terms; vacancies; chairman.*

A. The Council shall consist of seventeen members to be appointed as follows: two members of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; two members of the Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services appointed by the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee; the Secretaries of Commerce and Trade and Health and Human Resources; the Executive Director of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership; the Commissioner of the Department of Taxation or his designee; eight citizen members representing business, education and child care interests, two of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker, two of whom shall be appointed by the Senate Privileges and Elections Committee and four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor; and the director of the licensing division of the Department of Social Services.

B. The terms of the initial citizen members of the Commission shall be as follows:

1. Two gubernatorial and two legislative appointees shall be appointed for a term of one year each;
2. Two gubernatorial and two legislative appointees shall be for a term of two years each;
3. Two gubernatorial and two legislative appointees shall be for a term of three years each; and
4. Two gubernatorial and two legislative appointees shall be for a term of four years each.

Members shall be appointed for four-year terms. A member appointed to an initial term may serve one additional four-year term.

C. Members from the executive branch shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Vacancies shall be appointed for unexpired terms in the same manner as original appointments.

D. A chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected annually from the membership. The Commission shall meet at least four times a year. Nine members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

E. The members of the Commission shall not receive compensation, but shall be entitled to be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties as provided in § 2.2-2823.

F. The Commission shall report its findings as it deems proper and shall submit a biennial report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before October 1 of each odd-numbered year. The biennial report shall be distributed in accordance with the provisions of § 2.2-1127.

§ 2.2-2520. *Duties of Commission.*

The Commission shall:

1. Gather information pertaining to quality child care and early education, the financing of quality child care and early education and economic development incentives available to encourage the development of quality child care and early education facilities and services;
2. Analyze the effectiveness of economic development incentives available to encourage the development of quality child care and early education facilities and services in the Commonwealth and in other states and countries; and
3. Develop strategies for financing quality child care, which shall include, but is not limited to, business involvement through public-private partnerships.

INTRODUCED

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