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## HOUSE BILL NO. 1316

Offered January 18, 2002

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-2238 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

Patrons—Phillips, Bland, Johnson, Keister and Stump

Referred to Committee on General Laws

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

**1. That § 2.2-2238 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-2238. Economic development services.

A. It shall be the duty of the Authority to encourage, stimulate, and support the development and expansion of the economy of the Commonwealth. The Authority is charged with the following duties and responsibilities to:

1. See that there are prepared and carried out effective economic development marketing and promotional programs;

2. Make available, in conjunction and cooperation with localities, chambers of commerce, industrial authorities, and other public and private groups, to prospective new businesses basic information and pertinent factors of interest and concern to such businesses;

3. Formulate, promulgate, and advance programs throughout the Commonwealth for encouraging the location of new businesses in the Commonwealth and the retention and growth of existing businesses;

4. Encourage and solicit private sector involvement, support, and funding for economic development in the Commonwealth;

5. Encourage the coordination of the economic development efforts of public institutions, regions, communities, and private industry and collect and maintain data on the development and utilization of economic development capabilities;

6. Establish such offices within and without the Commonwealth that are necessary to the expansion and development of industries and trade;

7. Encourage the export of products and services from the Commonwealth to international markets; and

8. Advise, upon request, the State Board for Community Colleges in designating technical training programs in Virginia's comprehensive community colleges for the Community College Incentive Scholarship Program pursuant to § 23-220.4; and

9. ~~Upon~~ Advise, upon request, ~~to advise~~ the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia in designating certain collegiate programs for the Virginia Undergraduate Career and Technical Education Incentive Scholarship Program pursuant to Article 3 (§ 23-38.19:3 et seq.) of Chapter 4.1 of Title 23.

B. The Authority shall *create a special marketing division with an office located in the City of Norton that shall* prepare a specific plan annually that shall serve as the basis for marketing high unemployment areas of Virginia *and for providing incentives for development in such areas*. This plan shall be submitted to the Governor and General Assembly annually on or before November 1 of each year. The report shall contain the plan and activities conducted by the Authority *and the special marketing division* to market these high unemployment areas. The annual report shall be part of the report required by § 2.2-2242 and shall be distributed in accordance with § 2.2-1127.

INTRODUCED

HB1316