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HOUSE BILL NO. 1761

Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled January 6, 2003

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-1303 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of Information Technology; powers; contracts for personal computers.

 Patron—Amundson

 Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 2.2-1303 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-1303. Additional powers and duties relating to communications equipment and services and information technology equipment and services.

A. The Department shall have the following additional powers and duties concerning the planning, budgeting, acquiring, using and disposing of communications equipment and services:

1. Formulate specifications for telecommunications, automated data and word processing, and management information systems.

2. Analyze and approve all procurements of interconnective telecommunications facilities, telephones, automated data and word processing, and other communications equipment and goods.

3. Review and approve all agreements and contracts for communications services prior to execution between a state agency and another public or private agency.

4. Develop and administer a system to monitor and evaluate executed contracts and billing and collection systems.

5. Exempt from review requirements, but not from the state's competitive procurement process, any state agency that establishes, to the satisfaction of the Department, (i) its ability and willingness to administer efficiently and effectively the procurement of communications services or (ii) that it has been subjected to another review process coordinated through or approved by the Department.

B. The Department shall have the following powers and duties concerning the development, operation and management of communications services:

1. Manage and coordinate the various communications facilities, centers, and operations used by the Commonwealth.

2. Acquire, lease, or construct such facilities and equipment as necessary to deliver comprehensive communications services; and to maintain such facilities and equipment owned or leased.

3. Provide technical assistance to state agencies in such areas as: (i) designing management information systems; (ii) performing systems development services, including design, application programming, and maintenance; (iii) conducting research and sponsoring demonstration projects pertaining to all facets of telecommunications; (iv) effecting economies in telephone systems and equipment; (v) planning and forecasting for future needs in communications services; and (vi) management studies and surveys of organizational structure, management practices and systems and procedures.

4. Develop and implement information, billing and collections systems that will aid state agencies in forecasting their needs and managing their operations.

C. Notwithstanding § 2.2-1110, telecommunications goods and services of every description may and information technology goods and services of every description shall be procured by (i) the Department for its own benefit or on behalf of other state agencies and institutions or (ii) such other agencies or institutions to the extent authorized by the Department. Procurements made in accordance with this subsection shall be made in accordance with the regulations specified in § 2.2-1111, unless the Department has adopted alternative regulations governing these procurements pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

D. All statewide contracts and agreements made and entered into by the Department for the purchase of computers, software, supplies, and related peripheral equipment and services shall provide for the inclusion of counties, cities, and towns in such contracts and agreements. For good cause shown, the Secretary of Administration may disapprove the inclusion from a specific contract or agreement. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 2.2-4301, the Department may enter into multiple vendor contracts for the referenced hardware, software, and services.

E. *The Department may establish contracts for the purchase of personal computers and related devices by public school teachers for use outside the classroom. The computers and related devices shall not be purchased with public funds, but shall be paid for and owned by teachers individually.*

INTRODUCED

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59 *F.* This section shall not be construed or applied so as to infringe upon, in any manner, the
60 responsibilities for accounting systems assigned to the Comptroller under § 2.2-803.