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HOUSE BILL NO. 1037 Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 14, 2004

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-518 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Office of the Attorney General; debt collection.

Patrons—Saxman, Albo, Athey, Byron, Callahan, Carrico, Cline, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Drake, Fralin, Frederick, Griffith, Hugo, Ingram, Janis, Jones, S.C., Landes, Lewis, Lingamfelter, Louderback, Marrs, McDougle, Nixon, Nutter, O'Bannon, Oder, Parrish, Putney, Reese, Scott, E.T., Sickles, Tata, Weatherholtz and Wright

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.2-518 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.2-518. Division of Debt Collection.

There is created in the Department of Law a Division of Debt Collection that shall provide all legal services and advice related to the collection of funds owed to the Commonwealth, pursuant to § 2.2-507 and the Virginia Debt Collection Act (§ 2.2-4800 et seq.).

The Attorney General may appoint and fix the salaries of such attorneys and employees as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Division, within the amounts appropriated to the Division, and may supplement such funds from appropriations made to his office for the provision of legal services to the Commonwealth.

The Division may retain as special revenue up to 30 percent of receivables collected on behalf of state agencies and may contract with private collection agents for the collection of debts amounting to less than \$15,000.