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HOUSE BILL NO. 749**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**(Proposed by the Senate Committee on General Laws
on February 18, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Marshall, R.G.)

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-4304 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Public Procurement Act; cooperative procurement.***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 2.2-4304 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-4304. Cooperative procurement.

A. Any public body may participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative procurement agreement on behalf of or in conjunction with one or more other public bodies, or public agencies or institutions or localities of the several states, *of the United States or its territories of the United States*, or the District of Columbia, for the purpose of combining requirements to increase efficiency or reduce administrative expenses in any acquisition of goods and services. Except for contracts for professional services, a public body may purchase from another public body's contract even if it did not participate in the request for proposal or invitation to bid, if the request for proposal or invitation to bid specified that the procurement was being conducted on behalf of other public bodies. Any public body that enters into a cooperative procurement agreement with a county, city, or town whose governing body has adopted alternative policies and procedures pursuant to subdivisions 9 and 10 of § 2.2-4343 shall comply with the alternative policies and procedures adopted by the governing body of such county, city, or town.

B. Subject to the provisions of §§ 2.2-1110, 2.2-1111, 2.2-1120 and 2.2-2012, any authority, department, agency, or institution of the Commonwealth may participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative procurement arrangement on behalf of or in conjunction with public bodies, private health or educational institutions or with public agencies or institutions of the several states, territories of the United States, or the District of Columbia, for the purpose of combining requirements to effect cost savings or reduce administrative expense in any acquisition of goods and services, other than professional services. A public body may purchase from any authority, department, agency or institution of the Commonwealth's contract even if it did not participate in the request for proposal or invitation to bid, if the request for proposal or invitation to bid specified that the procurement was being conducted on behalf of other public bodies. In such instances, deviation from the procurement procedures set forth in this chapter and the administrative policies and procedures established to implement this chapter shall be permitted, if approved by the Director of the Division of Purchases and Supply. Pursuant to § 2.2-2012, such approval is not required if the procurement arrangement is for telecommunications and information technology goods and services of every description. In instances where the procurement arrangement is for telecommunications and information technology goods and services, such arrangement shall be permitted if approved by the Chief Information Officer. However, such acquisitions shall be procured competitively. Nothing herein shall prohibit the payment by direct or indirect means of any administrative fee that will allow for participation in any such arrangement.

C. As authorized by the United States Congress and consistent with applicable federal regulations, any county, city, or town may purchase goods and nonprofessional services from a U.S. General Services Administration contract or a contract awarded by any other agency of the U.S. government.

D. As authorized by the U.S. Congress and consistent with applicable federal regulations, and upon approval of the director of the Division of Purchases and Supply of the Department of General Services, any authority, department, agency, or institution of the Commonwealth may purchase nontelecommunications and information technology goods and nonprofessional services from a U. S. General Services Administration contract or a contract awarded by any other agency of the U.S. government.

E. As authorized by the U.S. Congress and consistent with applicable federal regulations, and upon approval of the Chief Information Officer, any authority, department, agency, or institution of the Commonwealth may purchase telecommunications and information technology goods and nonprofessional services from a U.S. General Services Administration contract or a contract awarded by any other agency of the U.S. government.