

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2005 SESSION

CHAPTER 483

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-2902.1, relating to the Virginia Personnel Act; rights of employees to contact elected officials.

[H 2872]

Approved March 21, 2005

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-2902.1 as follows:

§ 2.2-2902.1. Rights of state employees to contact elected officials.

Nothing in this chapter or Chapter 12 (§ 2.2-1200 et seq.) of this title shall be construed to prohibit or otherwise restrict the right of any state employee to express opinions to state or local elected officials on matters of public concern, nor shall a state employee be subject to acts of retaliation because the employee has expressed such opinions.

For the purposes of this section "matters of public concern" means those matters of interest to the community as a whole, whether for social, political, or other reasons and shall include discussions that disclose any (i) evidence of corruption, impropriety, or other malfeasance on the part of government officials; (ii) violations of law; or (iii) incidence of fraud, abuse, or gross mismanagement.