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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2320**

Offered January 12, 2005

Prefiled January 11, 2005

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 24 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 21, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2459 and 2.2-2460, relating to the Significant Regional Project Advisory Board.*

Patrons—Griffith and Keister; Senator: Wampler

Referred to Committee on General Laws

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 24 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 21, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2459 and 2.2-2460 as follows:**

*Article 21.**Significant Regional Project Advisory Board.*

§ 2.2-2459. *Significant Regional Project Advisory Board; membership; terms; quorum; compensation and expenses.*

A. *The Significant Regional Project Advisory Board, (the Board) is hereby established as an advisory board, within the meaning of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government.*

B. *The Board shall consist of 7 nonlegislative citizen members as follows: four members to be appointed by the Governor; two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and one member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. Each appointee shall be a senior level executive of a major Virginia company. After the original appointments, all other appointments shall be for four-year terms. A member appointed to an initial term may serve one additional four-year term.*

C. *The Board shall elect from its membership a chairman and vice-chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The Board shall meet at the call of the chairman or Governor or at the request of a majority of the Board members.*

D. *All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825.*

F. *The Office of the Governor shall provide staff support to the Board.*

§ 2.2-2460. *Duties of the Board.*

A. *The Board shall make recommendations to the Governor concerning any assistance grant over \$1 million made from the unused balances of any state budget to a major regional employer located in a distressed area of the Commonwealth. Such recommendations shall be based on (i) the need for the grant as indicated by the level of economic distress experienced in the area and (ii) the anticipated rate of return to the distressed area and the Commonwealth. An affirmative vote by six of the seven members shall be required for any recommendation that is made to the Governor.*

B. *The Governor shall not be authorized to make any assistance grant over \$1 million from the unused balances of any state budget to a major regional employer located in a distressed area of the Commonwealth without the recommendation of the Board.*

**2. That the initial terms of the members of Significant Regional Project Advisory Board shall be staggered as follows: one member appointed by the Governor for a term of two years; one member appointed by the Governor and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules for a term of three years; and two members appointed by the Governor and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates for a term of four years. Thereafter, the terms of all such members shall be four years.**

INTRODUCED

HB2320