

2005 SESSION

INTRODUCED

059221496

HOUSE BILL NO. 2872

Offered January 21, 2005

A *BILL 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.*

Patrons—Saxman, Landes, Louderback, Miller, Parrish, Petersen, Pollard and Weatherholtz

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 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.

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HB2872