

## 2008 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE BILL NO. 371

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 4, 2008

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-915 of the Code of Virginia, relating to local control of firearms; attorney fees.*

Patrons—Carrico, Athey, Cline, Cole, Crockett-Stark, Gilbert, Hogan, Janis, Kilgore, Lingamfelter, Pogge and Poindexter

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

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

#### **1. That § 15.2-915 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 15.2-915. Control of firearms; applicability to authorities and local governmental agencies.

A. No locality shall adopt or enforce any ordinance, resolution or motion, as permitted by § 15.2-1425, and no agent of such locality shall take any administrative action, governing the purchase, possession, transfer, ownership, carrying, storage or transporting of firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof other than those expressly authorized by statute. For purposes of this section, a statute that does not refer to firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof, shall not be construed to provide express authorization.

Nothing in this section shall prohibit a locality from adopting workplace rules relating to terms and conditions of employment of the workforce. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 9.1-101 from acting within the scope of his duties.

The provisions of this section applicable to a locality shall also apply to any authority or to a local governmental entity, including a department or agency, but not including any local or regional jail or juvenile detention facility.

B. Any local ordinance, resolution or motion adopted prior to the effective date of this act governing the purchase, possession, transfer, ownership, carrying or transporting of firearms, ammunition, or components or combination thereof, other than those expressly authorized by statute, is invalid.

*C. If any locality adopts or enforces any ordinance, resolution, or motion, or any agent of such locality takes any administrative action, prohibited by subsection A, and a person incurs attorney fees thereby, such locality shall be liable for, and shall pay to such person, such fees.*

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