

2009 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 1529

Offered January 23, 2009

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-1512.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to rights of local employees to contact elected officials.*

Patron—Miller, Y.B.

Referred to Committee on Local Government

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-1512.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-1512.4. Rights of local employees to contact elected officials.

~~Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to~~ *Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, no locality shall prohibit or otherwise restrict the right of any local employee to express opinions to state or local elected officials on matters of public concern, nor shall a local 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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