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HOUSE BILL NO. 290

Offered January 13, 2010 Prefiled January 11, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 27-15.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to fire programs; donated fire equipment; liability.

Patrons—Griffith and Keam

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 27-15.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 27-15.2. Purchase, maintenance, etc., of equipment; donated equipment.

A. The governing body of every city, town or county shall have power to provide for the purchase, operation, manning and maintenance of suitable equipment for fighting fires or performing emergency medical services in or upon the property of the city, town or county and of its inhabitants, and to prescribe the terms and conditions upon which the same will be used for fighting fires or performing emergency medical services in or upon privately owned property. All equipment purchased after October 1, 1970, shall be equipped with threads of USA Standard B2.3, B2.4 of the American Standards Association.

B. Any fire/EMS department of a city, town, or county, or any fire/EMS company donating equipment for fighting fires or performing emergency medical services, which equipment met existing standards at the time of its purchase by the donating entity, shall be immune from civil liability unless the donating entity acted with gross negligence or willful misconduct.