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HOUSE BILL NO. 825

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 11, 2012

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 8.01 a chapter numbered 17.4, consisting of a section numbered 8.01-465.26, relating to the application of foreign law in Virginia courts.*

Patrons—Marshall, R.G., Morris, Cole and Pogge

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 8.01 a chapter numbered 17.4, consisting of a section numbered 8.01-465.26, as follows:

CHAPTER 17.4.

APPLICATION OF FOREIGN LAWS.

§ 8.01-465.26. Application of foreign laws.

A. For purposes of this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Foreign law" means any constitution, law, legal code, or legal system that is established outside the jurisdiction of the United States, the District of Columbia, or the states or territories of the United States.

B. No justice, judge, or other judicial officer of any court of the Commonwealth shall decide any issue in a case or action before that court, and no judge, hearing officer, or other official of any administrative agency, department, or commission shall decide any issue in any adjudication, rule-making, or other administrative proceeding before that agency, department, or commission, in whole or in part based on the authority of foreign law except to the extent that the United States Constitution or Constitution of Virginia or any federal or state law requires or authorizes the consideration of such foreign law.

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