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**SENATE BILL NO. 160**

Senate Amendments in [ ] - January 23, 2012

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 11 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 8, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-1182 and 2.2-1183, relating to the Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Petersen

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 11 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 8, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-1182 and 2.2-1183, as follows:**

*Article 8.**Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act.**§ 2.2-1182. Short title; definitions.*

A. *This article shall be known and may be cited as the Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act.*

B. *As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

*"Green building certification program" means a public building design, construction, and renovation program that meets the requirements of VEES.*

*"VEES" means the Virginia Energy Conservation and Environmental Standards developed by the Department of General Services considering the U.S. Green Building Council (LEED) green building rating standard, the Green Building Initiative "Green Globes" building standard, and other appropriate requirements.*

*§ 2.2-1183. Building standards; exemption.*

A. *Any executive branch agency or institution entering the design phase for construction of a new building greater than 5,000 gross square feet in size, or renovating such a building where the cost of renovation exceeds 50 percent of the [ replacement ] value of the building, shall conform to VEES and the buildings shall be designed, constructed, verified, and operated to achieve the green buildings certification program targets for new construction and major renovation as defined in VEES.*

B. *The Director of the Department of General Services may grant an exemption from the design and construction standards required by subsection A upon a finding of special circumstances that make construction or renovation to the standards impracticable.*

*[ C. Certified historic structures as defined in 17VAC10-30-10 are exempt from these standards. ]*

ENGROSSED

SB160E