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SENATE BILL NO. 495

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice
on February 3, 2014)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Norment)

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-101, 9.1-150.2, and 19.2-13 of the Code of Virginia, relating to special conservators of the peace.***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That §§ 9.1-101, 9.1-150.2, and 19.2-13 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 9.1-101. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter or in Chapter 23 (§ 19.2-387 et seq.) of Title 19.2, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Administration of criminal justice" means performance of any activity directly involving the detection, apprehension, detention, pretrial release, post-trial release, prosecution, adjudication, correctional supervision, or rehabilitation of accused persons or criminal offenders or the collection, storage, and dissemination of criminal history record information.

"Board" means the Criminal Justice Services Board.

"Conviction data" means information in the custody of any criminal justice agency relating to a judgment of conviction, and the consequences arising therefrom, in any court.

"Correctional status information" means records and data concerning each condition of a convicted person's custodial status, including probation, confinement, work release, study release, escape, or termination of custody through expiration of sentence, parole, pardon, or court decision.

"Criminal history record information" means records and data collected by criminal justice agencies on adult individuals consisting of identifiable descriptions and notations of arrests, detentions, indictments, informations, or other formal charges, and any disposition arising therefrom. The term shall not include juvenile record information which is controlled by Chapter 11 (§ 16.1-226 et seq.) of Title 16.1, criminal justice intelligence information, criminal justice investigative information, or correctional status information.

"Criminal justice agency" means (i) a court or any other governmental agency or subunit thereof which as its principal function performs the administration of criminal justice and any other agency or subunit thereof which performs criminal justice activities, but only to the extent that it does so; (ii) for the purposes of Chapter 23 (§ 19.2-387 et seq.) of Title 19.2, any private corporation or agency which, within the context of its criminal justice activities, employs officers appointed under § 15.2-1737, or special conservators of the peace or special policemen appointed under Chapter 2 (§ 19.2-12 et seq.) of Title 19.2, provided that (a) such private corporation or agency requires its officers, special conservators or special policemen to meet compulsory training standards established by the Criminal Justice Services Board and submits reports of compliance with the training standards and (b) the private corporation or agency complies with the provisions of Article 3 (§ 9.1-126 et seq.), but only to the extent that the private corporation or agency so designated as a criminal justice agency performs criminal justice activities; and (iii) the Office of the Attorney General, for all criminal justice activities otherwise permitted under clause (i) and for the purpose of performing duties required by the Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predators Act (§ 37.2-900 et seq.).

"Criminal justice agency" includes the Virginia State Crime Commission.

"Criminal justice agency" includes any program certified by the Commission on VASAP pursuant to § 18.2-271.2.

"Criminal justice information system" means a system including the equipment, facilities, procedures, agreements, and organizations thereof, for the collection, processing, preservation, or dissemination of criminal history record information. The operations of the system may be performed manually or by using electronic computers or other automated data processing equipment.

"Department" means the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

"Dissemination" means any transfer of information, whether orally, in writing, or by electronic means. The term shall not include access to the information by officers or employees of a criminal justice agency maintaining the information who have both a need and right to know the information.

"Law-enforcement officer" means any full-time or part-time employee of a police department or sheriff's office which is a part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof, or any full-time or part-time employee of a private police department, and who is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime and the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth, and shall include any (i) special agent of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage

60 Control; (ii) police agent appointed under the provisions of § 56-353; (iii) officer of the Virginia Marine
61 Police *appointed under the provisions of § 28.2-106*; (iv) conservation police officer who is a full-time
62 sworn member of the enforcement division of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; (v)
63 investigator who is a full-time sworn member of the security division of the State Lottery Department;
64 (vi) conservation officer of the Department of Conservation and Recreation commissioned pursuant to
65 § 10.1-115; (vii) full-time sworn member of the enforcement division of the Department of Motor
66 Vehicles appointed pursuant to § 46.2-217; (viii) animal protection police officer employed under
67 § 15.2-632; ~~or~~ (ix) campus police officer appointed under Chapter 17 (§ 23-232 et seq.) of Title 23; *or*
68 (x) *private police officer employed by a private police department*. Part-time employees are those
69 compensated officers who are not full-time employees as defined by the employing police department
70 ~~or~~, sheriff's office, *or private police department*.

71 "Private police department" means any entity authorized by statute to employ private police officers.
72 The jurisdiction of a private police department shall be limited to real property owned by the entity and,
73 if approved by the local chief of police or sheriff, any contiguous property; such jurisdiction shall be
74 concurrent with the jurisdiction of the local police or sheriff's department. Private police departments
75 and private police officers shall be subject to and comply with the Constitution of the United States, the
76 Constitution of the Commonwealth, and the provisions of §§ 9.1-600, 15.2-1705 through 15.2-1708,
77 15.2-1719, 15.2-1721, and 15.2-1722. Any person employed as a private police officer pursuant to this
78 section shall meet the minimum compulsory training requirements for law-enforcement officers
79 established by the Board. A private police officer is not entitled to benefits under the Line of Duty Act
80 (§ 9.1-400 et seq.) or under the Virginia Retirement System, is not a "qualified law enforcement officer"
81 or "qualified retired law enforcement officer" within the meaning of the federal Law Enforcement Safety
82 Act, 18 U.S.C. § 926(B) et seq., and shall not be deemed an employee of the Commonwealth or any
83 locality. Any private police department in existence on January 1, 2013, whose existence is authorized
84 or was authorized by any provision of law, is hereby validated and may continue. Any entity employing
85 officers meeting the compulsory minimum training standards for law-enforcement officers established by
86 the Board as of July 1, 2014, may continue to operate and use the word "police" until July 1, 2015.

87 "School resource officer" means a certified law-enforcement officer hired by the local
88 law-enforcement agency to provide law-enforcement and security services to Virginia public elementary
89 and secondary schools.

90 "School security officer" means an individual who is employed by the local school board for the
91 singular purpose of maintaining order and discipline, preventing crime, investigating violations of school
92 board policies, and detaining students violating the law or school board policies on school property or at
93 school-sponsored events and who is responsible solely for ensuring the safety, security, and welfare of
94 all students, faculty, staff, and visitors in the assigned school.

95 **§ 9.1-150.2. Powers of Criminal Justice Services Board relating to special conservators of the**
96 **peace appointed pursuant to § 19.2-13.**

97 A. The Board ~~may adopt regulations establishing~~ shall establish compulsory minimum, entry-level,
98 in-service, and advanced training standards for special conservators of the peace. *Such training shall be*
99 *graduated and based on the type of duties to be performed by the special conservator of the peace. In*
100 *establishing compulsory training standards, the Board shall ensure the public safety and welfare against*
101 *incompetent or unqualified persons engaging in the activities regulated by this section.* The Board shall
102 adopt regulations that may include provisions delegating to the Board's staff the right to inspect the
103 facilities and programs of persons conducting training to ensure compliance with the law and its
104 regulations. ~~In establishing compulsory training standards for special conservators of the peace, the~~
105 ~~Board shall ensure the public safety and welfare against incompetent or unqualified persons engaging in~~
106 ~~the activities regulated by this section.~~ The regulations may provide for exemption from training of
107 persons having previous employment as law-enforcement officers for a state or the federal government.
108 However, no such exemption shall be granted to persons having less than five continuous years of such
109 employment, nor shall an exemption be provided for any person whose employment as a
110 law-enforcement officer was terminated because of his misconduct or incompetence *or who has been*
111 *decertified as a law-enforcement officer.* The regulations may include provisions for ~~partial~~ exemption
112 from such training for persons having previous training that meets or exceeds the minimum training
113 standards and has been approved by the Department. The Board may also adopt regulations that (i)
114 establish the qualifications of applicants for registration; (ii) cause to be examined the qualifications of
115 each applicant for registration; (iii) provide for collection of fees for registration and renewal that are
116 sufficient to cover all expenses for administration and operation of a program of registration; (iv) ensure
117 continued competency and prevent deceptive or misleading practices by practitioners; (v) effectively
118 administer the regulatory system promulgated by the Board; (vi) provide for receipt of complaints
119 concerning the conduct of any person whose activities are regulated by the Board; (vii) provide for
120 investigations, and appropriate disciplinary action if warranted; and (viii) allow the Board to revoke,
121 suspend, or refuse to renew a registration, ~~certification, or license~~ for just cause as enumerated in

regulations of the Board. The Board shall not adopt compulsory, minimum, entry-level training standards in excess of 24 hours for unarmed special conservators of the peace or in excess of 40 hours for armed special conservators of the peace. In adopting its regulations, the Board shall seek the advice of the Private Security Services Advisory Board established pursuant to § 9.1-143.

B. Notwithstanding any provision of subsection A, any special conservator of the peace shall have one year following the approval by the Board to comply with any additional compulsory minimum training standards as may be established following his appointment.

§ 19.2-13. Special conservators of the peace; authority; jurisdiction; registration; bond; liability of employers; penalty; report.

A. Upon the submission of an application of from (i) any sheriff or chief of police chief law-enforcement officer of any county, city, or town; (ii) any corporation authorized to do business in the Commonwealth; (iii) the owner, proprietor, or authorized custodian of any place within the Commonwealth; or (iv) any museum owned and managed by the Commonwealth, a circuit court judge of any county or city shall appoint special conservators of the peace who shall serve as such for such length of time as the court may designate, but not exceeding four years under any one appointment, upon a showing by the applicant of a necessity for the security of property or the peace and presentation of evidence that the person or persons to be appointed as a special conservator of the peace possess a valid registration issued by the Department of Criminal Justice Services in accordance with the provisions of subsection B C. However, a judge may deny the appointment for good cause, and shall state the specific reasons for the denial in writing in the order denying the appointment. The order of appointment may shall provide that a special conservator of the peace shall have all the powers, functions, duties, responsibilities and authority of any other conservator of the peace may only perform the duties for which he has qualified as specified on the application submitted pursuant to subsection B and within such geographical limitations as the court may deem appropriate within the confines of the county, city or town that makes application or within the county, city or town where the corporate applicant is located, limited, except as provided in subsection E F, to the judicial circuit wherein application has been made, whenever such special conservator of the peace is engaged in the performance of his duties as such, and shall require that the special conservator of the peace comply with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth. The order may also provide that the special conservator of the peace is a "law-enforcement officer" for the purposes of Article 4 (§ 37.2-808 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 37.2 or Article 16 (§ 16.1-335 et seq.) of Chapter 11 of Title 16.1. The order may also provide that the special conservator of the peace is authorized to use the seal of the Commonwealth in a badge or other credential of office as the court may deem appropriate. The order may also provide that the special conservator of the peace may use the title "police" on any badge or uniform worn in the performance of his duties as such and if so provided shall require the special conservator of the peace to maintain minimum compulsory law-enforcement training standards established by the Criminal Justice Services Board for law-enforcement officers. The designation of the special conservator of the peace as a "law-enforcement officer" under this section does not qualify the special conservator of the peace as a "qualified law enforcement officer" or "qualified retired law enforcement officer" within the meaning of the federal Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act, 18 U.S.C. § 926(B) et seq. The order may also provide that a special conservator of the peace who has completed the minimum compulsory law-enforcement training standards established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, has the authority to affect arrests, using up to the same amount of force as would be allowed to a law-enforcement officer employed by the Commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions when making a lawful arrest. The order also may (a) require the local sheriff or chief of police to conduct a background investigation which may include a review of the applicant's school records, employment records, or interviews with persons possessing general knowledge of the applicant's character and fitness for such appointment and (b) limit the use of flashing lights and sirens on personal vehicles used by the conservator in the performance of his duties, provided that such use is in accordance with § 46.2-1023. Prior to granting an application for appointment, the circuit court shall ensure that the applicant has met the registration requirements established by the Criminal Justice Services Board.

B. Effective September 15, 2004, no All applications for appointments of special conservators of the peace shall be submitted on forms developed by the Department of Criminal Justice Services in consultation with the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia and shall specify the duties for which the applicant is qualified.

C. No person shall seek appointment as a special conservator of the peace from a circuit court judge without possessing a valid registration issued by the Department of Criminal Justice Services, except as provided in this section. Applicants for registration may submit an application on or after January 1, 2004. A temporary registration may be issued in accordance with regulations established by the Criminal Justice Services Board while awaiting the results of a state and national fingerprint search. However, no

183 person shall be issued a temporary registration until he has (i) complied with, or been exempted from
184 the compulsory minimum training standards as set forth in this section, (ii) submitted his fingerprints on
185 a form provided by the Department to be used for the conduct of a national criminal records search and
186 a Virginia criminal history records search, and (iii) met all other requirements of this article and Board
187 regulations. No person with a criminal conviction for a misdemeanor involving (a) moral turpitude, (b)
188 assault and battery, (c) damage to real or personal property, (d) controlled substances or imitation
189 controlled substances as defined in Article 1 (§ 18.2-247 et seq.) of Chapter 7 of Title 18.2, (e)
190 prohibited sexual behavior as described in Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, (f)
191 firearms, or (g) any felony, *or who is required to register with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against*
192 *Minors Registry pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1,* shall be registered as a special
193 conservator of the peace. ~~All appointments for special conservators of the peace shall become void on~~
194 ~~September 15, 2004, unless they have obtained a valid registration issued by the Department of Criminal~~
195 ~~Justice Services Effective July 1, 2014, all persons seeking appointment or reappointment as a special~~
196 ~~conservator of the peace are required to register with the Department as a special conservator of the~~
197 ~~peace, regardless of any other standing that the person may have as a law-enforcement officer or other~~
198 ~~position requiring registration or licensure by the Department.~~

199 C. D. Each person registered as or seeking registration as a special conservator of the peace shall be
200 covered by (i) a cash bond, or a surety bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in
201 the Commonwealth, in a reasonable amount to be fixed by the Board, not to be less than \$10,000,
202 conditioned upon the faithful and honest conduct of his business or employment; or (ii) evidence of a
203 policy of liability insurance or self-insurance in an amount and with coverage as fixed by the Board.
204 Any person who is aggrieved by the misconduct of any person registered as a special conservator of the
205 peace and recovers a judgment against the registrant, which is unsatisfied in whole or in part, may bring
206 an action in his own name against the bond or insurance policy of the registrant.

207 D. ~~Individuals listed in § 19.2-12, individuals who have complied with or been exempted pursuant to~~
208 ~~subsection A of § 9.1-141, individuals employed as law-enforcement officers as defined in § 9.1-101~~
209 ~~who have met the minimum qualifications set forth in § 15.2-1705 shall be exempt from the~~
210 ~~requirements in subsections A through C. Further, individuals appointed under subsection A and~~
211 ~~employed by a private corporation or entity that meets the requirements of subdivision (ii) of the~~
212 ~~definition of criminal justice agency in § 9.1-101, shall be exempt from the registration requirements of~~
213 ~~subsection A and from subsections B and C provided they have met the minimum qualifications set~~
214 ~~forth in § 15.2-1705. The Department of Criminal Justice Services shall, upon request by the circuit~~
215 ~~court, provide evidence to the circuit court of such employment prior to appointing an individual special~~
216 ~~conservator of the peace. The employing agency~~ E. Any (i) chief law-enforcement officer of any county,
217 city, or town; (ii) corporation authorized to do business in the Commonwealth; (iii) owner, proprietor,
218 or authorized custodian of any place within the Commonwealth; or (iv) museum owned and managed by
219 the Commonwealth, that employs a special conservator of the peace shall notify the circuit court and the
220 Department of Criminal Justice Services within 30 days after the date such individual has left
221 employment and all powers of the special conservator of the peace shall be void. Failure to provide such
222 notification shall be punishable by a fine of \$250 plus an additional \$50 per day for each day such
223 notice is not provided.

224 E. F. When the application is made by any chief law-enforcement officer, the circuit court shall
225 specify in the order of appointment the name of the applicant authorized under subsection A and the
226 specific geographic jurisdiction ~~of or address where~~ the special conservator of the peace is authorized to
227 serve. When the application is made by any corporation authorized to do business in the
228 Commonwealth; any owner, proprietor, or authorized custodian of any place within the Commonwealth;
229 or any museum owned and managed by the Commonwealth, the circuit court shall specify in the order
230 of appointment the name of the applicant authorized under subsection A and the specific address where
231 the special conservator of the peace is authorized to serve. Court appointments shall be limited to the
232 judicial circuit wherein application has been made. In the case of a corporation or other business, the
233 court appointment may also include, for good cause shown, any real property owned or leased by the
234 corporation or business, including any subsidiaries, in other specifically named cities and counties, but
235 shall provide that the powers of the special conservator of the peace do not extend beyond the
236 boundaries of such real property *and shall include the specific addresses of such property.* ~~Effective July~~
237 ~~1, 2004, the~~ The clerk of the appointing circuit court shall transmit a copy of the order of appointment
238 that shall specify the following information *to the Department of State Police:* the person's complete
239 name, address, date of birth, social security number, gender, race, height, weight, color of hair, color of
240 eyes, firearm authority or limitation as set forth in subsection F G, date of the order, and other
241 information as may be required by the Department of State Police. The Department of State Police shall
242 enter the person's name and other information into the Virginia Criminal Information Network
243 established and maintained by the Department pursuant to Chapter 2 (§ 52-12 et seq.) of Title 52. The
244 Department of State Police may charge a fee not to exceed \$10 to cover its costs associated with

processing these orders. Each special conservator of the peace so appointed on *the* application shall present his credentials to the chief of police or sheriff or his designee of all jurisdictions where he has conservator powers. If his powers are limited to certain areas owned or leased by a corporation or business, he shall also provide notice of the exact physical addresses of those areas. Each special conservator shall provide a temporary registration letter issued by the Department of Criminal Justice Services prior to seeking an appointment by the circuit court. Once the applicant receives the appointment from the circuit court the applicant shall file the appointment order *and a copy of the application* with the Department of Criminal Justice Services in order to receive his special conservator of the peace ~~photo~~ registration ~~card~~ *and documentation*.

If any such special conservator of the peace is the employee, agent or servant of another, his appointment as special conservator of the peace shall not relieve his employer, principal or master, from civil liability to another arising out of any wrongful action or conduct committed by such special conservator of the peace while within the scope of his employment.

Effective July 1, 2002, no person employed by a local school board as a school security officer, as defined in § 9.1-101, shall be eligible for appointment as a conservator for purposes of maintaining safety in a public school in the Commonwealth. All appointments of special conservators of the peace granted to school security officers as defined in § 9.1-101 prior to July 1, 2002 are void.

~~F.~~ G. The court may limit or prohibit the carrying of weapons by any special conservator of the peace initially appointed on or after July 1, 1996, while the appointee is within the scope of his employment as such.

H. *Effective October 1, 2014, no special conservator of the peace shall display or use the word "police" on any uniform, badge, credential, or vehicle in the performance of his duties as a special conservator of the peace. Other than special conservators of the peace employed by a state agency, no special conservator of the peace shall use the seal of the Commonwealth on any uniform, badge, credential, or vehicle in the performance of his duties.*

I. *The circuit court shall retain jurisdiction for four years over any order it enters pursuant to this section and may revoke such appointment for good cause.*