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**SENATE BILL NO. 739** 

Offered January 14, 2015 Prefiled December 16, 2014

A BILL to amend and reenact § 52-6.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Department of State Police; appointment of supervisory officers.

Patron—Carrico

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 52-6.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 52-6.1. Appointment of supervisory officers; career progression program.

A. All appointments to sworn police positions above the rank of trooper within the Department of State Police shall be made by the Superintendent of State Police from among the sworn police officers of the Department, except for those positions designated in subdivision A 16 of § 2.2-2905, or whenever the Superintendent determines, in writing, that a position requires knowledge, skills, or abilities such that a sufficient pool of qualified candidates does not exist within the Department of State Police. It was and is the intent of the General Assembly that the primary factor in the career progression program is satisfactory years of service.

B. The career progression program shall provide for salary increases for career progression to the rank of Senior Trooper after 10 years of satisfactory service with the Department and to the rank of Master Trooper after 20 years of satisfactory service with the Department, provided in each case that there are no pending disciplinary actions involving a candidate and the candidate is in compliance with all Department policies.

C. The career progression program shall provide for a salary increase for Special Agents after 10 years of satisfactory service with the Department and for a salary increase for career progression to the rank of Senior Special Agent after 20 years of satisfactory service with the Department, provided in each case that there are no pending disciplinary actions involving a candidate and the candidate is in compliance with all Department policies.

D. No sworn employee of the Department shall receive more than two career progression salary increases regardless of his assignment or promotion to Special Agent.