2016 SESSION

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1	HOUSE BILL NO. 1345
2	AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
3	(Proposed by the House Committee on Appropriations
4	on February 12, 2016)
5	(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Jones)
6 7	A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-400, 9.1-401, 9.1-402 through 9.1-405, 9.1-407, and 58.1-3, as it
8	is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 9.1-400.1 and by adding in Article 3.1 of Chapter 1 of Title
9	51.1 a section numbered 51.1-124.38; and to repeal § 9.1-406 of the Code of Virginia, relating to
10	benefits for certain public employees disabled in the line of duty and their families, and for the
11	families and beneficiaries of such employees who die in the line of duty.
12	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
13	1. That §§ 9.1-400, 9.1-401, 9.1-402 through 9.1-405, 9.1-407, and 58.1-3, as it is currently effective
14	and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the
15	Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 9.1-400.1 and by adding in Article 3.1
16	of Chapter 1 of Title 51.1 a section numbered 51.1-124.38 as follows:
17	§ 9.1-400. Title of chapter; definitions.
18	A. This chapter shall be known and designated as the Line of Duty Act.
19	B. As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:
20	"Beneficiary" means the spouse of a deceased person and such persons as are entitled to take under
21	the will of a deceased person if testate, or as his heirs at law if intestate.
22 23	(Effective until July 1, 2018) "Deceased person" means any individual whose death occurs on or
23 24	after April 8, 1972, <i>in the line of duty</i> as the direct or proximate result of the performance of his duty, including the presumptions under §§ 27-40.1, 27-40.2, 51.1-813, and 65.2-402, <i>and</i> 65.2-402.1 <i>if his</i>
25	position is covered by the applicable statute, as a law-enforcement officer of the Commonwealth or any
26	of its political subdivisions; a correctional officer as defined in § 53.1-1; a jail officer; a regional jail or
27	jail farm superintendent; a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or city sergeant or deputy city sergeant of the City of
28	Richmond; a police chaplain; a member of any fire company or department or emergency medical
29	services agency that has been recognized by an ordinance or a resolution of the governing body of any
30	county, city, or town of the Commonwealth as an integral part of the official safety program of such
31	county, city, or town; a member of any fire company providing fire protection services for facilities of
32	the Virginia National Guard; a member of the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force
33	while such member is serving in the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force on official
34 35	state duty or federal duty under Title 32 of the United States Code; any special agent of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board; any regular or special conservation police officer who receives
33 36	compensation from a county, city, or town or from the Commonwealth appointed pursuant to the
37	provisions of § 29.1-200; any commissioned forest warden appointed under the provisions of
38	§ 10.1-1135; any member or employee of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission granted the power
39	of arrest pursuant to § 28.2-900; any Department of Emergency Management hazardous materials officer;
40	any other employee of the Department of Emergency Management who is performing official duties of
41	the agency, when those duties are related to a major disaster or emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16,
42	that has been or is later declared to exist under the authority of the Governor in accordance with
43	§ 44-146.28; any employee of any county, city, or town performing official emergency management or
44 45	emergency services duties in cooperation with the Department of Emergency Management, when those duties are related to a major disaster or emergency as defined in § 44.146.16 that has been or is later
45 46	duties are related to a major disaster or emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16, that has been or is later declared to exist under the authority of the Governor in accordance with § 44-146.28 or a local
40	emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16, declared by a local governing body; any nonfirefighter regional
48	hazardous materials emergency response team member; any conservation officer of the Department of
49	Conservation and Recreation commissioned pursuant to § 10.1-115; or any full-time sworn member of
50	the enforcement division of the Department of Motor Vehicles appointed pursuant to § 46.2-217.
51	(Effective July 1, 2018) "Deceased person" means any individual whose death occurs on or after
52	April 8, 1972, in the line of duty as the direct or proximate result of the performance of his duty,
53	including the presumptions under §§ 27-40.1, 27-40.2, 51.1-813, and 65.2-402, and 65.2-402.1 if his
54	position is covered by the applicable statute, as a law-enforcement officer of the Commonwealth or any
55	of its political subdivisions; a correctional officer as defined in § 53.1-1; a jail officer; a regional jail or
56	jail farm superintendent; a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or city sergeant or deputy city sergeant of the City of Bishmond, a police sherifing a member of any first company or department or emergency medical
57 58	Richmond; a police chaplain; a member of any fire company or department or emergency medical services agancy that has been recognized by an ordinance or a resolution of the governing body of any
50 59	services agency that has been recognized by an ordinance or a resolution of the governing body of any county, city, or town of the Commonwealth as an integral part of the official safety program of such
	soundy, only, or town of the commonweath as an integral part of the official safety program of such

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60 county, city, or town; a member of any fire company providing fire protection services for facilities of 61 the Virginia National Guard; a member of the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force while such member is serving in the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force on official 62 63 state duty or federal duty under Title 32 of the United States Code; any special agent of the Virginia 64 Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority; any regular or special conservation police officer who receives 65 compensation from a county, city, or town or from the Commonwealth appointed pursuant to the 66 provisions of § 29.1-200; any commissioned forest warden appointed under the provisions of § 10.1-1135; any member or employee of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission granted the power 67 **68** of arrest pursuant to § 28.2-900; any Department of Emergency Management hazardous materials officer; any other employee of the Department of Emergency Management who is performing official duties of 69 70 the agency, when those duties are related to a major disaster or emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16, that has been or is later declared to exist under the authority of the Governor in accordance with 71 72 § 44-146.28; any employee of any county, city, or town performing official emergency management or 73 emergency services duties in cooperation with the Department of Emergency Management, when those 74 duties are related to a major disaster or emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16, that has been or is later 75 declared to exist under the authority of the Governor in accordance with § 44-146.28 or a local emergency, as defined in § 44-146.16, declared by a local governing body; any nonfirefighter regional 76 77 hazardous materials emergency response team member; any conservation officer of the Department of 78 Conservation and Recreation commissioned pursuant to § 10.1-115; or any full-time sworn member of 79 the enforcement division of the Department of Motor Vehicles appointed pursuant to § 46.2-217.

80 "Disabled person" means any individual who, has been determined to be mentally or physically incapacitated so as to prevent the further performance of his duties at the time of his disability where 81 such incapacity is likely to be permanent, and whose incapacity occurs in the line of duty as the direct 82 or proximate result of the performance of his duty, including the presumptions under §§ 27-40.1, 27-40.2, 51.1-813, 65.2-402, and 65.2-402.1 if his position is covered by the applicable statute, in any 83 84 85 position listed in the definition of deceased person in this section, has become mentally or physically 86 incapacitated so as to prevent the further performance of duty where such incapacity is likely to be 87 permanent. The term shall also include "Disabled person" does not include any individual who has been 88 determined to be no longer disabled pursuant to subdivision A 2 of § 9.1-404. Disabled person also 89 does not include any individual during any period in which his health insurance coverage in the LODA 90 Health Benefits Plan is suspended pursuant to subdivision C 4 of § 9.1-401. "Disabled person" includes 91 any state employee included in the definition of a deceased person who was disabled on or after January 92 1. 1966.

"Eligible dependent" for purposes of continued health insurance pursuant to § 9.1-401 means the natural or adopted child or children of a deceased person or disabled person or of a deceased or disabled person's eligible spouse, including any children born as the result of a pregnancy or adopted pursuant to a preadoptive agreement, either of which occurred prior to the time of the employee's death or disability. Eligibility will continue until the end of the year in which the eligible dependent reaches age 26 or when the eligible dependent ceases to be eligible based on the Virginia Administrative Code or administrative guidance as determined by the Department of Human Resource Management.

"Eligible spouse" for purposes of continued health insurance pursuant to § 9.1-401 means the spouse
of a deceased person or a disabled person at the time of the death or disability. Eligibility will continue
until the eligible spouse dies, ceases to be married to a disabled person, or in the case of the spouse of
a deceased person, dies, remarries, or otherwise ceases to be eligible based on the Virginia
Administrative Code or administrative guidance as determined by the Department of Human Resource
Management.

106 "Employee" means any person who would be covered or whose spouse, dependents, or beneficiaries
107 would be covered under the benefits of this chapter if the person became a disabled person or a
108 deceased person.

"Employer" means (i) the employer of a person who is a covered employee or (ii) in the case of a volunteer who is a member of any fire company or department or rescue squad described in the definition of "deceased person," the county, city, or town that by ordinance or resolution recognized such fire company or department or rescue squad as an integral part of the official safety program of such locality.

114 "Fund" means the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund established pursuant to 115 § 9.1-400.1

"Line of duty" means any action the deceased or disabled person was obligated or authorized toperform by rule, regulation, condition of employment or service, or law.

118 "LODA Health Benefits Plans" means the separate health benefits plans established pursuant to \$9.1-401.

120 "Nonparticipating employer" means any employer that is a political subdivision of the

121 Commonwealth that elected on or before July 1, 2012, to directly fund the cost of benefits provided

122 under this chapter and not participate in the Fund.

123 "Participating employer" means any employer that is a state agency or is a political subdivision of 124 the Commonwealth that did not make an election to become a nonparticipating employer.

125 "VRS" means the Virginia Retirement System. 126

§ 9.1-400.1. Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund.

127 A. There is hereby established a permanent and perpetual fund to be known as the Line of Duty 128 Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund, consisting of such moneys as may be appropriated by the 129 General Assembly, contributions or reimbursements from participating and nonparticipating employers, 130 gifts, bequests, endowments, or grants from the United States government or its agencies or 131 instrumentalities, net income from the investment of moneys held in the Fund, and any other available 132 sources of funds, public and private. Any moneys remaining in the Fund at the end of a biennium shall 133 not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Interest and income earned from the 134 investment of such moneys shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. The moneys in the Fund shall 135 be (i) deemed separate and independent trust funds, (ii) segregated and accounted for separately from 136 all other funds of the Commonwealth, and (iii) administered solely in the interests of the persons who 137 are covered under the benefits provided pursuant to this chapter. Deposits to and assets of the Fund 138 shall not be subject to the claims of creditors.

139 B. The Virginia Retirement System shall invest, reinvest, and manage the assets of the Fund as 140 provided in § 51.1-124.38 and shall be reimbursed from the Fund for such activities as provided in that 141 section.

142 C. The Fund shall be used to provide the benefits under this chapter related to disabled persons, 143 deceased persons, eligible dependents, and eligible spouses on behalf of participating employers and to 144 pay related administrative costs.

145 D. Each participating employer shall make annual contributions to the Fund and provide information 146 as determined by VRS. The amount of the contribution for each participating employer shall be 147 determined on a current disbursement basis in accordance with the provisions of this section. If any 148 participating employer fails to remit contributions or other fees or costs associated with the Fund, VRS 149 shall inform the State Comptroller and the affected participating employer of the delinquent amount. In

150 calculating the delinquent amount, VRS may impose an interest rate of one percent per month of 151 delinquency. The State Comptroller shall forthwith transfer such delinquent amount, plus interest, from 152 any moneys otherwise distributable to such participating employer.

153 § 9.1-401. Continued health insurance coverage for employees, eligible spouses, and eligible 154 dependents.

155 A. The surviving spouse and any dependents of a deceased person Employees, eligible spouses, and 156 eligible dependents shall be afforded continued health insurance coverage as provided in this section, the 157 cost of which shall be paid in full out of the general fund of the state treasury by the nonparticipating 158 employer to the Department of Human Resource Management or from the Fund on behalf of a 159 participating employer, as applicable. If any disabled person is receiving the benefits described in this 160 section and would otherwise qualify for the health insurance credit described in Chapter 14 (§ 51.1-1400 et seq.) of Title 51.1, the amount of such credit shall be deposited into the Line of Duty 161 162 Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund or paid to the nonparticipating employer, as applicable, from the 163 health insurance credit trust fund, in a manner prescribed by VRS.

164 B. If the disabled person's disability (i) occurred while in the line of duty as the direct or proximate 165 result of the performance of his duty or (ii) was subject to the provisions of §§ 27-40.1, 27-40.2, 166 51.1-813 or § 65.2-402, and arose out of and in the course of his employment, the disabled person, his surviving spouse and any dependents shall be afforded continued health insurance coverage. The cost of 167 168 such health insurance coverage shall be paid in full out of the general fund of the state treasury.

169 C. The continued health insurance coverage provided by this section shall be the same plan of 170 benefits which the deceased or disabled person was entitled to on the last day of his active duty or 171 comparable benefits established as a result of a replacement plan.

172 D. For any spouse, continuedhealth insurance provided by this section shall terminate upon such 173 spouse's death or coverage by alternate health insurance.

174 E. For dependents, 1. The continued health insurance coverage provided by this section for all 175 disabled persons, eligible spouses, and eligible dependents shall be through separate plans, referred to 176 as the LODA Health Benefits Plans (the Plans), administered by the Department of Human Resource 177 Management. The Plans shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and shall be modeled 178 upon state employee health benefits program plans. Funding of the Plans' reserves and contingency 179 shall be provided through a line of credit, the amount of which shall be based on an actuarially 180 determined estimate of liabilities. The Department of Human Resource Management shall be reimbursed 181 for health insurance premiums and all reasonable costs incurred and associated, directly and indirectly, in performing the duties pursuant to this section (i) from the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits 182

183 Trust Fund for costs related to disabled persons, deceased persons, eligible dependents, and eligible 184 spouses on behalf of participating employers and (ii) from a nonparticipating employer for premiums 185 and costs related to disabled persons, deceased persons, eligible dependents, and eligible spouses for 186 which the nonparticipating employer is responsible. If any nonparticipating employer fails to remit such 187 premiums and costs, the Department of Human Resource Management shall inform the State 188 Comptroller and the affected nonparticipating employer of the delinquent amount. In calculating the 189 delinquent amount, the Department of Human Resource Management may impose an interest rate of one 190 percent per month of delinquency. The State Comptroller shall forthwith transfer such delinquent 191 amount, plus interest, from any moneys otherwise distributable to such nonparticipating employer.

192 2. In the event that temporary health care insurance coverage is needed for employees, eligible 193 spouses, and eligible dependents during the period of transition into the LODA Health Benefits Plans, 194 the Department of Human Resource Management is authorized to acquire and provide temporary 195 transitional health insurance coverage. The type and source of the transitional health plans shall be within the sole discretion of the Department of Human Resource Management. Transitional coverage for 196 197 eligible dependents shall comply with the eligibility criteria of the transitional plans until enrollment in 198 the LODA Health Benefits Plan can be completed.

199 C. 1. a. Except as provided in subdivision 2 and any other law, continued health insurance provided 200 by this section coverage in any LODA Health Benefits Plans shall not be provided to any person 201 terminate upon such dependent's death, marriage, coverage by alternate health insurance or twenty-first 202 birthday (i) whose coverage under the Plan is based on a deceased person's death or a disabled 203 person's disability occurring on or after July 1, 2017 and (ii) who is eligible for Medicare due to age. 204 b. Coverage in the LODA Health Benefits Plans shall also cease for any person upon his death.

205 Continued health care insurance shall be provided beyond the dependent's twenty-first birthday if the dependent is a full-time college student and shall continue until such time as the dependent ceases to be 206 207 a full-time student or reaches his twenty-fifth birthday, whichever occurs first. Continued health care insurance shall also be provided beyond the dependent's twenty-first birthday if the dependent is 208 mentally or physically disabled, and such coverage shall continue until three months following the 209 210 cessation of the disability. 211

F. For any disabled person, continued health insurance provided by this section

212 2. The provisions of subdivision 1 a shall not apply to any disabled person who is eligible for 213 Medicare due to disability under Social Security Disability Insurance or a Railroad Retirement Board 214 Disability Annuity. The Department of Human Resource Management may provide such disabled person 215 coverage under a LODA Health Benefits Plan that is separate from the plan for other persons.

216 3. Continued health insurance under this section shall automatically also terminate upon the disabled 217 person's death, recovery or return to full duty in any position listed in the definition of deceased person 218 in § 9.1-400. Such disabled person shall promptly notify the participating or nonparticipating employer, 219 VRS, and the Department of Human Resource Management upon his return to work.

220 4. Such continued health insurance shall be suspended for the year following a calendar year in 221 which the disabled person has earned income in an amount equal to or greater than the salary of the 222 position held by the disabled person at the time of disability, indexed annually based upon the annual 223 increases in the United States Average Consumer Price Index for all items, all urban consumers 224 (CPI-U), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Such 225 suspension shall cease the year following a calendar year in which the disabled person has not earned 226 such amount of income. The disabled person shall notify the participating or nonparticipating employer, 227 VRS, and the Department of Human Resource Management no later than January 15 of the year 228 following any year in which he earns income of such amount, and notify the participating or 229 nonparticipating employer, VRS, and the Department of Human Resource Management when he no 230 longer is earning such amount. Upon request, a disabled person shall provide VRS and the Department 231 of Human Resource Management with documentation of earned income.

232 § 9.1-402. Payments to beneficiaries of certain deceased law-enforcement officers, firefighters, 233 etc., and retirees.

234 A. The beneficiary of a deceased person whose death occurred on or before December 31, 2005, 235 while in the line of duty as the direct or proximate result of the performance of his duty shall be 236 entitled to receive the sum of \$75,000, which shall be payable out of the general fund of the state 237 treasury, paid by the nonparticipating employer or from the Fund on behalf of a participating employer, 238 as applicable, in gratitude for and in recognition of his sacrifice on behalf of the people of the 239 Commonwealth.

240 B. The beneficiary of a deceased person whose death occurred on or after January 1, 2006, while in 241 the line of duty as the direct or proximate result of the performance of his duty shall be entitled to 242 receive the sum of \$100,000, which shall be payable out of the general fund of the state treasury paid 243 by the nonparticipating employer or from the Fund on behalf of a participating employer, as applicable, in gratitude for and in recognition of his sacrifice on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth. 244

C. Subject to the provisions of §§ § 27-40.1, 27-40.2, 51.1-813, or § 65.2-402, if the deceased person's death (i) arose out of and in the course of his employment or (ii) was within five years from his date of retirement, his beneficiary shall be entitled to receive the sum of \$25,000, which shall be payable out of the general fund of the state treasury paid by the nonparticipating employer or from the Fund on behalf of a participating employer, as applicable.

250 § 9.1-402.1. Payments for burial expenses.

251 It is the intent of the General Assembly that expeditious payments for burial expenses be made for 252 deceased persons whose death is determined to be a direct and proximate result of their performance in 253 the line of duty as defined by the Line of Duty Act. The State Comptroller is hereby authorized to 254 release, Upon the approval of VRS, at the request of the family of a person who may be subject to the 255 line of duty death benefits, payments shall be made to a funeral service provider for burial and 256 transportation costs by the nonparticipating employer or from the Fund on behalf of a participating 257 *employer, as applicable.* These payments would be advanced from the death benefit that would be due 258 to the beneficiary of the deceased person if it is determined that the person qualifies for line of duty 259 coverage. Expenses advanced under this provision shall not exceed the coverage amounts outlined in 260 § 65.2-512. In the event a determination is made that the death is not subject to the line of duty 261 benefits, the Virginia Retirement System VRS or other Virginia governmental retirement fund to of which the deceased is a member will deduct from benefit payments otherwise due to be paid to the 262 263 beneficiaries of the deceased payments previously paid by the State Comptroller for burial and related 264 transportation expenses and return such funds to the State Comptroller nonparticipating employer or to 265 the Fund on behalf of a participating employer, as applicable. The State Comptroller Virginia 266 Retirement System shall have the right to file a claim with the Virginia Workers' Compensation 267 Commission against any employer to recover burial and related transportation expenses advanced under 268 this provision.

§ 9.1-403. Claim for payment; costs.

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270 A. Every beneficiary, disabled person or his spouse, or dependent of a deceased or disabled person 271 shall present his claim to the chief officer, or his designee, of the appropriate division or department that 272 last employed the deceased or disabled person employer for which the disabled or deceased person last 273 worked on forms to be provided by the State Comptroller's office VRS. Upon receipt of a claim, the 274 chief officer or his designee shall forward the claim to VRS within seven days. The Virginia Retirement 275 System shall determine eligibility for benefits under this chapter. The Virginia Retirement System may request assistance in obtaining information necessary to make an eligibility determination from the 276 277 Department of State Police. The Department of State Police shall take action to conduct the 278 investigation as expeditiously as possible. The Department of State Police shall be reimbursed from the 279 Fund or the nonparticipating employer, as applicable, for the cost of searching for and obtaining information requested by VRS. The Virginia Retirement System shall be reimbursed for the reasonable 280 281 costs incurred for making eligibility determinations by nonparticipating employers or from the Fund on behalf of participating employers, as applicable. If any nonparticipating employer fails to reimburse 282 283 VRS for reasonable costs incurred in making an eligibility determination, VRS shall inform the State 284 Comptroller and the affected nonparticipating employer of the delinquent amount. In calculating the 285 delinquent amount, VRS may impose an interest rate of one percent per month of delinquency. The State 286 Comptroller shall forthwith transfer such delinquent amount, plus interest, from any moneys otherwise 287 *distributable to such nonparticipating employer.*

B. In the case of a police department or a sheriff's office that is part of or administered by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof, the chief officer, or his designee, of such department or office shall investigate and report upon the circumstances surrounding the deceased or disabled person and report his findings to the Comptroller within 10 business days after completion of the investigation. The Comptroller, the Attorney General, or any such chief officer, in his discretion, may submit a request to the Superintendent of the Department of State Police to perform the investigation pursuant to subsection C.

295 C. In all other cases, upon receipt of the claim the chief officer, or his designee, of the appropriate 296 division or department shall submit a request to the Superintendent of the Department of the State 297 Police, who shall investigate and report upon the circumstances surrounding the deceased or disabled 298 person, calling upon the additional information and services of any other appropriate agents or agencies 299 of the Commonwealth. The Superintendent, or his designee, shall report his findings to the Comptroller 300 within 10 business days after completion of the investigation. The Department of State Police shall take 301 action to conduct the investigation as expeditiously as possible. The Department shall be reimbursed for 302 the cost of investigations conducted pursuant to this section from the appropriate employer that last 303 employed the deceased or disabled employee.

304 D. 1. Within 10 business days of being notified by an employee, or an employee's representative, **305** that such employee is permanently and totally disabled due to a work-related injury suffered in the line

306 of duty, the agency or department employing the disabled person employee shall provide him with 307 information about the continued health insurance coverage provided under this act chapter and the 308 process for initiating a claim. The employer shall assist in filing a claim, unless such assistance is 309 waived by the employee or the employee's representative.

310 2. Within 10 business days of having knowledge that a deceased person's surviving spouse, 311 dependents, or beneficiaries may be entitled to benefits under this chapter, the employer for which the 312 deceased person last worked shall provide the surviving spouse, dependents, or beneficiaries, as applicable, with information about the benefits provided under this chapter and the process for initiating 313 314 a claim. The employer shall assist in filing a claim, unless such assistance is waived by the surviving 315 spouse, dependents, or beneficiaries.

C. Within 30 days of receiving a claim pursuant to subsection A, an employer may submit to VRS 316 any evidence that could assist in determining the eligibility of a claim. However, when the claim 317 318 involves a presumption under § 65.2-402 or 65.2-402.1, VRS shall provide an employer additional time 319 to submit evidence as is necessary not to exceed nine months from the date the employer received a 320 claim pursuant to subsection A. Any such evidence submitted by the employer shall be included in the 321 agency record for the claim. 322

§ 9.1-404. Order of the Virginia Retirement System.

323 A. 1. The Virginia Retirement System shall make an eligibility determination within 45 days of 324 receiving all necessary information for determining eligibility for a claim filed under § 9.1-403. 325 However, when the claim involves a presumption under § 65.2-402 or 65.2-402.1, this period of 30 days shall be replaced by a period of nine months to allow the employer sufficient time to obtain and submit 326 327 such evidence. If it appears to the Comptroller that the requirements of either subsection A or B of 328 <u>§ 9.1-402 have been satisfied</u>, he shall issue his warrant in the appropriate amount for payment out of 329 the general fund of the state treasury to the surviving spouse or to such persons and subject to such 330 conditions as may be proper in his administrative discretion, and in the event there is no beneficiary, the 331 Comptroller shall issue the payment to the estate of the deceased person. The Comptroller shall issue a 332 decision, and payment, if appropriate, shall be made no later than forty-five days following receipt of the report required under § 9.1-403 benefits under this chapter are due, VRS shall notify the 333 334 nonparticipating employer, which shall provide the benefits within 15 days of such notice, or VRS shall 335 pay the benefits from the Fund on behalf of the participating employer within 15 days of the 336 determination, as applicable. The payments shall be retroactive to the first date that the disabled person 337 was no longer eligible for health insurance coverage subsidized by his employer.

338 2. Two years after an individual has been determined to be a disabled person, VRS may require the 339 disabled person to renew the determination through a process established by VRS. If a disabled person 340 refuses to submit to the determination renewal process described in this subdivision, then benefits under 341 this chapter shall cease for the individual, any eligible dependents, and an eligible spouse until the 342 individual complies. If such individual does not comply within six months from the date of the initial 343 request for a renewed determination, then benefits under this chapter shall permanently cease for the individual, any eligible dependents, and an eligible spouse. If VRS issues a renewed determination that 344 345 an individual is no longer a disabled person, then benefits under this chapter shall permanently cease 346 for the individual, any eligible dependents, and an eligible spouse. If VRS issues a renewed 347 determination that an individual remains a disabled person, then VRS may require the disabled person 348 to renew the determination five years after such renewed determination through a process established by 349 VRS. The Virginia Retirement System may require the disabled person to renew the determination at any time if VRS has information indicating that the person may no longer be disabled. 350

351 B. If it appears to the Comptroller that the requirements of either subsection A or B of § 9.1-401 352 have been satisfied, he shall issue his warrants in the appropriate amounts for payment from the general 353 fund of the state treasury to ensure continued health care coverage for the persons designated under 354 § 9.1-401. The Comptroller shall issue a decision, and payments, if appropriate, shall commence no later 355 than forty-five days following receipt of the report required under $\frac{9}{9}$ 9.1-403. The payments shall be 356 retroactive to the first date that the disability existed The Virginia Retirement System shall be reimbursed 357 for all reasonable costs incurred and associated, directly and indirectly, in performing the duties 358 pursuant to this chapter (i) from the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund for costs 359 related to disabled persons, deceased persons, eligible dependents, and eligible spouses on behalf of 360 participating employers and (ii) from a nonparticipating employer for premiums and costs related to disabled persons, deceased persons, eligible dependents, and eligible spouses for which the 361 362 nonparticipating employer is responsible.

363 C. The Virginia Retirement System may develop policies and procedures necessary to carry out the 364 provisions of this chapter. 365

§ 9.1-405. Appeal from decision of Virginia Retirement System.

Any beneficiary, disabled person or his eligible spouse or eligible dependent of a deceased or 366 367 disabled person aggrieved by the decision of the Comptroller shall present a petition to the court in

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368 which the will of the deceased person is probated or in which the personal representative of the 369 deceased person is qualified or might qualify or in the jurisdiction in which the disabled person resides 370 VRS may appeal the decision through a process established by VRS. Any such process may utilize a 371 medical board as described in § 51.1-124.23. An employer may submit information related to the claim 372 and may participate in any informal fact-finding proceeding that is included in such process established 373 by VRS. Upon completion of the appeal process, the final determination issued by VRS shall constitute a 374 case decision as defined in § 2.2-4001. Any beneficiary, disabled person, or eligible spouse or eligible 375 dependent of a deceased or disabled person aggrieved by, and claiming the unlawfulness of, such case 376 decision shall have a right to seek judicial review thereof in accordance with Article 5 (§ 2.2-4025 et 377 seq.) of the Administrative Process Act. The employer shall not have a right to seek such judicial 378 review.

379 The Commonwealth shall be represented in such proceeding by the Attorney General or his designee. 380 The court shall proceed as chancellor without a jury. If it appears to the court that the requirements of 381 this chapter have been satisfied, the judge shall enter an order to that effect. The order shall also direct 382 the Comptroller to issue his warrant in the appropriate amount for the payment out of the general fund 383 of the state treasury to such persons and subject to such conditions as may be proper. If, in the case of a 384 deceased person, there is no beneficiary, the judge shall direct such payment as is due under § 9.1-402 385 to the estate of the deceased person. 386

§ 9.1-407. Training.

387 Any law-enforcement or public safety officer entitled to benefits under this Chapter shall 388 receive training within 30 days of his employment, and again every two years thereafter, concerning the 389 benefits available to himself or his beneficiary in case of disability or death in the line of duty. The 390 Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security shall develop training information to be distributed to 391 agencies and localities with employees subject to this chapter. The agency or locality shall be 392 responsible for providing the training. Such training shall not count towards toward in-service training 393 requirements for law-enforcement officers pursuant to § 9.1-102 and shall include, but not be limited to, 394 the general rules for intestate succession described in § 64.2-200 that may be applicable to the 395 distribution of benefits provided under § 9.1-402.

396 § 51.1-124.38. Investment of assets of the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund.

397 A. In addition to such other powers as shall be vested in the Board, the Board shall have the full 398 power to invest, reinvest, and manage the assets of the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust 399 Fund (the Fund) established pursuant to § 9.1-400.1. The Board shall maintain a separate accounting 400 for the assets of the Fund.

401 B. The Board shall invest the assets of the Fund with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under 402 the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiar with such 403 matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims. The Board **404** shall also diversify such investments so as to minimize the risk of large losses unless under the 405 circumstances it is clearly prudent not to do so.

406 C. No officer, director, or member of the Board or of any advisory committee of the Retirement 407 System or any of its tax-exempt subsidiary corporations whose actions are within the standard of care in 408 subsection B shall be held personally liable for losses suffered by the Retirement System on investments 409 made under the authority of this section.

410 D. The provisions of §§ 51.1-124.32 through 51.1-124.35 shall apply to the Board's activities with 411 respect to moneys in the Fund.

412 E. The Board may assess the Fund a reasonable administrative fee for its services. 413

§ 58.1-3. (Effective until July 1, 2018) Secrecy of information; penalties.

A. Except in accordance with a proper judicial order or as otherwise provided by law, the Tax 414 415 Commissioner or agent, clerk, commissioner of the revenue, treasurer, or any other state or local tax or 416 revenue officer or employee, or any person to whom tax information is divulged pursuant to § 58.1-512 417 or 58.1-2712.2, or any former officer or employee of any of the aforementioned offices shall not divulge 418 any information acquired by him in the performance of his duties with respect to the transactions, 419 property, including personal property, income or business of any person, firm or corporation. Such 420 prohibition specifically includes any copy of a federal return or federal return information required by 421 Virginia law to be attached to or included in the Virginia return. This prohibition shall apply to any 422 reports, returns, financial documents or other information filed with the Attorney General pursuant to the 423 provisions of Article 3 (§ 3.2-4204 et seq.) of Chapter 42 of Title 3.2. Any person violating the 424 provisions of this section is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The provisions of this subsection shall not 425 be applicable, however, to:

426 1. Matters required by law to be entered on any public assessment roll or book;

427 2. Acts performed or words spoken, published, or shared with another agency or subdivision of the 428 Commonwealth in the line of duty under state law;

429 3. Inquiries and investigations to obtain information as to the process of real estate assessments by a
430 duly constituted committee of the General Assembly, or when such inquiry or investigation is relevant to
431 its study, provided that any such information obtained shall be privileged;

432 4. The sales price, date of construction, physical dimensions or characteristics of real property, or any433 information required for building permits;

434 5. Copies of or information contained in an estate's probate tax return, filed with the clerk of court
435 pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent;
436 6. Information regarding nonprofit entities exempt from sales and use tax under § 58.1-609.11, when
437 requested by the General Assembly or any duly constituted committee of the General Assembly;

438 7. Reports or information filed with the Attorney General by a Stamping Agent pursuant to the 439 provisions of Article 3 (§ 3.2-4204 et seq.), when such reports or information are provided by the 440 Attorney General to a tobacco products manufacturer who is required to establish a qualified escrow 441 fund pursuant to § 3.2-4201 and are limited to the brand families of that manufacturer as listed in the 442 Tobacco Directory established pursuant to § 3.2-4206 and are limited to the current or previous two 443 calendar years or in any year in which the Attorney General receives Stamping Agent information that 444 potentially alters the required escrow deposit of the manufacturer. The information shall only be 445 provided in the following manner: the manufacturer may make a written request, on a quarterly or yearly basis or when the manufacturer is notified by the Attorney General of a potential change in the 446 447 amount of a required escrow deposit, to the Attorney General for a list of the Stamping Agents who 448 reported stamping or selling its products and the amount reported. The Attorney General shall provide 449 the list within 15 days of receipt of the request. If the manufacturer wishes to obtain actual copies of the 450 reports the Stamping Agents filed with the Attorney General, it must first request them from the Stamping Agents pursuant to subsection C of § 3.2-4209. If the manufacturer does not receive the reports pursuant to subsection C of § 3.2-4209, the manufacturer may make a written request to the 451 452 453 Attorney General, including a copy of the prior written request to the Stamping Agent and any response 454 received, for copies of any reports not received. The Attorney General shall provide copies of the 455 reports within 45 days of receipt of the request.

456 B. 1. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prohibit the publication of statistics so 457 classified as to prevent the identification of particular reports or returns and the items thereof or the 458 publication of delinquent lists showing the names of taxpayers who are currently delinquent, together 459 with any relevant information which in the opinion of the Department may assist in the collection of 460 such delinquent taxes. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or other law, the Department, 461 upon request by the General Assembly or any duly constituted committee of the General Assembly, 462 shall disclose the total aggregate amount of an income tax deduction or credit taken by all taxpayers, regardless of (i) how few taxpayers took the deduction or credit or (ii) any other circumstances. This 463 464 section shall not be construed to prohibit a local tax official from disclosing whether a person, firm or 465 corporation is licensed to do business in that locality and divulging, upon written request, the name and 466 address of any person, firm or corporation transacting business under a fictitious name. Additionally, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commissioner of revenue is authorized to provide, upon 467 468 written request stating the reason for such request, the Tax Commissioner with information obtained 469 from local tax returns and other information pertaining to the income, sales and property of any person, 470 firm or corporation licensed to do business in that locality.

471 2. This section shall not prohibit the Department from disclosing whether a person, firm, or
472 corporation is registered as a retail sales and use tax dealer pursuant to Chapter 6 (§ 58.1-600 et seq.) or
473 whether a certificate of registration number relating to such tax is valid. Additionally, notwithstanding
474 any other provision of law, the Department is hereby authorized to make available the names and
475 certificate of registration numbers of dealers who are currently registered for retail sales and use tax.

476 3. This section shall not prohibit the Department from disclosing information to nongovernmental
477 entities with which the Department has entered into a contract to provide services that assist it in the
478 administration of refund processing or other services related to its administration of taxes.

479 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provision of this title, the Tax 480 Commissioner is authorized to: (i) divulge tax information to any commissioner of the revenue, director 481 of finance or other similar collector of county, city or town taxes who, for the performance of his 482 official duties, requests the same in writing setting forth the reasons for such request; (ii) provide to the 483 Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, upon written request, information on the amount of 484 income, filing status, number and type of dependents, and whether a federal earned income tax credit 485 has been claimed as reported by persons on their state income tax returns who have applied for public assistance or social services benefits as defined in § 63.2-100; (iii) provide to the chief executive officer 486 of the designated student loan guarantor for the Commonwealth of Virginia, upon written request, the 487 488 names and home addresses of those persons identified by the designated guarantor as having delinquent 489 loans guaranteed by the designated guarantor; (iv) provide current address information upon request to 490 state agencies and institutions for their confidential use in facilitating the collection of accounts

491 receivable, and to the clerk of a circuit or district court for their confidential use in facilitating the 492 collection of fines, penalties and costs imposed in a proceeding in that court; (v) provide to the 493 Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission, after entering into a written agreement, such 494 tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of unemployment taxes and overpaid 495 benefits; (vi) provide to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, upon entering into a written agreement, 496 such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of state and local taxes and the 497 administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws; (vii) provide to the Director of the Virginia 498 Lottery such tax information as may be necessary to identify those lottery ticket retailers who owe 499 delinquent taxes; (viii) provide to the Department of the Treasury for its confidential use such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the location of owners and holders of unclaimed property, 500 501 as defined in § 55-210.2; (ix) provide to the State Corporation Commission, upon entering into a written 502 agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of taxes and fees administered by the Commission; (x) provide to the Executive Director of the Potomac and 503 504 Rappahannock Transportation Commission for his confidential use such tax information as may be 505 necessary to facilitate the collection of the motor vehicle fuel sales tax; (xi) provide to the 506 Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services such tax information as may be 507 necessary to identify those applicants for registration as a supplier of charitable gaming supplies who 508 have not filed required returns or who owe delinquent taxes; (xii) provide to the Department of Housing 509 and Community Development for its confidential use such tax information as may be necessary to 510 facilitate the administration of the remaining effective provisions of the Enterprise Zone Act (§ 59.1-270 511 et seq.), and the Enterprise Zone Grant Program (§ 59.1-538 et seq.); (xiii) provide current name and 512 address information to private collectors entering into a written agreement with the Tax Commissioner, for their confidential use when acting on behalf of the Commonwealth or any of its political 513 514 subdivisions; however, the Tax Commissioner is not authorized to provide such information to a private 515 collector who has used or disseminated in an unauthorized or prohibited manner any such information 516 previously provided to such collector; (xiv) provide current name and address information as to the 517 identity of the wholesale or retail dealer that affixed a tax stamp to a package of cigarettes to any 518 person who manufactures or sells at retail or wholesale cigarettes and who may bring an action for 519 injunction or other equitable relief for violation of Chapter 10.1, Enforcement of Illegal Sale or 520 Distribution of Cigarettes Act; (xv) provide to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, upon entering 521 into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of unpaid 522 wages under § 40.1-29; (xvi) provide to the Director of the Department of Human Resource 523 Management, upon entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to 524 identify persons receiving workers' compensation indemnity benefits who have failed to report earnings 525 as required by § 65.2-712; (xvii) provide to any commissioner of the revenue, director of finance, or any 526 other officer of any county, city, or town performing any or all of the duties of a commissioner of the 527 revenue and to any dealer registered for the collection of the Communications Sales and Use Tax, a list 528 of the names, business addresses, and dates of registration of all dealers registered for such tax; (xviii) 529 provide to the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission for his 530 confidential use such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of the motor 531 vehicle fuel sales tax; (xix) provide to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services the 532 name and address of the taxpayer businesses licensed by the Commonwealth that identify themselves as 533 subject to regulation by the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to § 3.2-5130; and 534 (xx) provide to the developer or the economic development authority of a tourism project authorized by 535 § 58.1-3851.1, upon entering into a written agreement, tax information facilitating the repayment of gap 536 financing; and (xxi) provide to the Virginia Retirement System and the Department of Human Resource 537 Management, after entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to 538 facilitate the enforcement of subdivision C 4 of § 9.1-401. The Tax Commissioner is further authorized 539 to enter into written agreements with duly constituted tax officials of other states and of the United 540 States for the inspection of tax returns, the making of audits, and the exchange of information relating to 541 any tax administered by the Department of Taxation. Any person to whom tax information is divulged 542 pursuant to this section shall be subject to the prohibitions and penalties prescribed herein as though he 543 were a tax official.

544 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provision of this title, the 545 commissioner of revenue or other assessing official is authorized to (i) provide, upon written request 546 stating the reason for such request, the chief executive officer of any county or city with information 547 furnished to the commissioner of revenue by the Tax Commissioner relating to the name and address of 548 any dealer located within the county or city who paid sales and use tax, for the purpose of verifying the 549 local sales and use tax revenues payable to the county or city; (ii) provide to the Department of 550 Professional and Occupational Regulation for its confidential use the name, address, and amount of gross 551 receipts of any person, firm or entity subject to a criminal investigation of an unlawful practice of a

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552 profession or occupation administered by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 553 only after the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation exhausts all other means of 554 obtaining such information; and (iii) provide to any representative of a condominium unit owners' 555 association, property owners' association or real estate cooperative association, or to the owner of 556 property governed by any such association, the names and addresses of parties having a security interest 557 in real property governed by any such association; however, such information shall be released only 558 upon written request stating the reason for such request, which reason shall be limited to proposing or 559 opposing changes to the governing documents of the association, and any information received by any 560 person under this subsection shall be used only for the reason stated in the written request. The treasurer 561 or other local assessing official may require any person requesting information pursuant to clause (iii) of this subsection to pay the reasonable cost of providing such information. Any person to whom tax 562 information is divulged pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to the prohibitions and penalties 563 564 prescribed herein as though he were a tax official.

565 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provisions of this title, the 566 treasurer or other collector of taxes for a county, city or town is authorized to provide information 567 relating to any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer obtained by such treasurer or collector in the course 568 of performing his duties to the commissioner of the revenue or other assessing official for such 569 jurisdiction for use by such commissioner or other official in performing assessments.

570 This section shall not be construed to prohibit a local tax official from imprinting or displaying on a
571 motor vehicle local license decal the year, make, and model and any other legal identification
572 information about the particular motor vehicle for which that local license decal is assigned.

573 E. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, state agencies and any other administrative or 574 regulatory unit of state government shall divulge to the Tax Commissioner or his authorized agent, upon 575 written request, the name, address, and social security number of a taxpayer, necessary for the 576 performance of the Commissioner's official duties regarding the administration and enforcement of laws 577 within the jurisdiction of the Department of Taxation. The receipt of information by the Tax 578 Commissioner or his agent which may be deemed taxpayer information shall not relieve the 579 Commissioner of the obligations under this section.

580 F. Additionally, it shall be unlawful for any person to disseminate, publish, or cause to be published 581 any confidential tax document which he knows or has reason to know is a confidential tax document. A 582 confidential tax document is any correspondence, document, or tax return that is prohibited from being 583 divulged by subsection A, B, C, or D and includes any document containing information on the 584 transactions, property, income, or business of any person, firm, or corporation that is required to be filed 585 with any state official by § 58.1-512. This prohibition shall not apply if such confidential tax document 586 has been divulged or disseminated pursuant to a provision of law authorizing disclosure. Any person 587 violating the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

§ 58.1-3. (Effective July 1, 2018) Secrecy of information; penalties.

589 A. Except in accordance with a proper judicial order or as otherwise provided by law, the Tax 590 Commissioner or agent, clerk, commissioner of the revenue, treasurer, or any other state or local tax or 591 revenue officer or employee, or any person to whom tax information is divulged pursuant to § 58.1-512 592 or 58.1-2712.2, or any former officer or employee of any of the aforementioned offices shall not divulge 593 any information acquired by him in the performance of his duties with respect to the transactions, 594 property, including personal property, income or business of any person, firm or corporation. Such 595 prohibition specifically includes any copy of a federal return or federal return information required by 596 Virginia law to be attached to or included in the Virginia return. This prohibition shall apply to any 597 reports, returns, financial documents or other information filed with the Attorney General pursuant to the 598 provisions of Article 3 (§ 3.2-4204 et seq.) of Chapter 42 of Title 3.2. Any person violating the 599 provisions of this section is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The provisions of this subsection shall not 600 be applicable, however, to:

1. Matters required by law to be entered on any public assessment roll or book;

602 2. Acts performed or words spoken, published, or shared with another agency or subdivision of the
 603 Commonwealth in the line of duty under state law;

604 3. Inquiries and investigations to obtain information as to the process of real estate assessments by a
605 duly constituted committee of the General Assembly, or when such inquiry or investigation is relevant to
606 its study, provided that any such information obtained shall be privileged;

4. The sales price, date of construction, physical dimensions or characteristics of real property, or anyinformation required for building permits;

609 5. Copies of or information contained in an estate's probate tax return, filed with the clerk of court **610** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **611** Copies of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **612** Copies of or information contained in an estate's probate tax return, filed with the clerk of court **613** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **614** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **615** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **616** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **617** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **618** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the estate or an heir at law of the decedent; **619** pursuant to § 58.1-1714, when requested by a beneficiary of the e

6. Information regarding nonprofit entities exempt from sales and use tax under § 58.1-609.11, whenrequested by the General Assembly or any duly constituted committee of the General Assembly;

613 7. Reports or information filed with the Attorney General by a Stamping Agent pursuant to the

provisions of Article 3 (§ 3.2-4204 et seq.), when such reports or information are provided by the 614 615 Attorney General to a tobacco products manufacturer who is required to establish a qualified escrow 616 fund pursuant to § 3.2-4201 and are limited to the brand families of that manufacturer as listed in the Tobacco Directory established pursuant to § 3.2-4206 and are limited to the current or previous two 617 618 calendar years or in any year in which the Attorney General receives Stamping Agent information that 619 potentially alters the required escrow deposit of the manufacturer. The information shall only be 620 provided in the following manner: the manufacturer may make a written request, on a quarterly or 621 yearly basis or when the manufacturer is notified by the Attorney General of a potential change in the 622 amount of a required escrow deposit, to the Attorney General for a list of the Stamping Agents who reported stamping or selling its products and the amount reported. The Attorney General shall provide 623 624 the list within 15 days of receipt of the request. If the manufacturer wishes to obtain actual copies of the 625 reports the Stamping Agents filed with the Attorney General, it must first request them from the Stamping Agents pursuant to subsection C of § 3.2-4209. If the manufacturer does not receive the 626 627 reports pursuant to subsection C of § 3.2-4209, the manufacturer may make a written request to the 628 Attorney General, including a copy of the prior written request to the Stamping Agent and any response 629 received, for copies of any reports not received. The Attorney General shall provide copies of the 630 reports within 45 days of receipt of the request.

631 B. 1. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to prohibit the publication of statistics so 632 classified as to prevent the identification of particular reports or returns and the items thereof or the 633 publication of delinquent lists showing the names of taxpayers who are currently delinquent, together 634 with any relevant information which in the opinion of the Department may assist in the collection of 635 such delinquent taxes. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or other law, the Department, 636 upon request by the General Assembly or any duly constituted committee of the General Assembly, 637 shall disclose the total aggregate amount of an income tax deduction or credit taken by all taxpayers, 638 regardless of (i) how few taxpayers took the deduction or credit or (ii) any other circumstances. This 639 section shall not be construed to prohibit a local tax official from disclosing whether a person, firm or 640 corporation is licensed to do business in that locality and divulging, upon written request, the name and 641 address of any person, firm or corporation transacting business under a fictitious name. Additionally, 642 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commissioner of revenue is authorized to provide, upon 643 written request stating the reason for such request, the Tax Commissioner with information obtained 644 from local tax returns and other information pertaining to the income, sales and property of any person, 645 firm or corporation licensed to do business in that locality.

646 2. This section shall not prohibit the Department from disclosing whether a person, firm, or
647 corporation is registered as a retail sales and use tax dealer pursuant to Chapter 6 (§ 58.1-600 et seq.) or
648 whether a certificate of registration number relating to such tax is valid. Additionally, notwithstanding
649 any other provision of law, the Department is hereby authorized to make available the names and
650 certificate of registration numbers of dealers who are currently registered for retail sales and use tax.

651 3. This section shall not prohibit the Department from disclosing information to nongovernmental
 652 entities with which the Department has entered into a contract to provide services that assist it in the
 653 administration of refund processing or other services related to its administration of taxes.

654 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provision of this title, the Tax 655 Commissioner is authorized to: (i) divulge tax information to any commissioner of the revenue, director 656 of finance or other similar collector of county, city or town taxes who, for the performance of his 657 official duties, requests the same in writing setting forth the reasons for such request; (ii) provide to the 658 Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, upon written request, information on the amount of income, filing status, number and type of dependents, and whether a federal earned income tax credit 659 660 has been claimed as reported by persons on their state income tax returns who have applied for public assistance or social services benefits as defined in § 63.2-100; (iii) provide to the chief executive officer **661** of the designated student loan guarantor for the Commonwealth of Virginia, upon written request, the 662 663 names and home addresses of those persons identified by the designated guarantor as having delinquent 664 loans guaranteed by the designated guarantor; (iv) provide current address information upon request to 665 state agencies and institutions for their confidential use in facilitating the collection of accounts 666 receivable, and to the clerk of a circuit or district court for their confidential use in facilitating the 667 collection of fines, penalties and costs imposed in a proceeding in that court; (v) provide to the **668** Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission, after entering into a written agreement, such 669 tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of unemployment taxes and overpaid 670 benefits; (vi) provide to the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, upon entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of state and local taxes 671 672 and the administration of the alcoholic beverage control laws; (vii) provide to the Director of the 673 Virginia Lottery such tax information as may be necessary to identify those lottery ticket retailers who owe delinquent taxes; (viii) provide to the Department of the Treasury for its confidential use such tax 674

information as may be necessary to facilitate the location of owners and holders of unclaimed property, 675 676 as defined in § 55-210.2; (ix) provide to the State Corporation Commission, upon entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of taxes and fees 677 678 administered by the Commission; (x) provide to the Executive Director of the Potomac and 679 Rappahannock Transportation Commission for his confidential use such tax information as may be 680 necessary to facilitate the collection of the motor vehicle fuel sales tax; (xi) provide to the 681 Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services such tax information as may be **682** necessary to identify those applicants for registration as a supplier of charitable gaming supplies who 683 have not filed required returns or who owe delinquent taxes; (xii) provide to the Department of Housing **684** and Community Development for its confidential use such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the administration of the remaining effective provisions of the Enterprise Zone Act (§ 59.1-270 **685** et seq.), and the Enterprise Zone Grant Program (§ 59.1-538 et seq.); (xiii) provide current name and 686 687 address information to private collectors entering into a written agreement with the Tax Commissioner, 688 for their confidential use when acting on behalf of the Commonwealth or any of its political 689 subdivisions; however, the Tax Commissioner is not authorized to provide such information to a private 690 collector who has used or disseminated in an unauthorized or prohibited manner any such information 691 previously provided to such collector; (xiv) provide current name and address information as to the identity of the wholesale or retail dealer that affixed a tax stamp to a package of cigarettes to any **692** 693 person who manufactures or sells at retail or wholesale cigarettes and who may bring an action for **694** injunction or other equitable relief for violation of Chapter 10.1, Enforcement of Illegal Sale or Distribution of Cigarettes Act; (xv) provide to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, upon entering 695 696 into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of unpaid wages under § 40.1-29; (xvi) provide to the Director of the Department of Human Resource 697 Management, upon entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to **698** 699 identify persons receiving workers' compensation indemnity benefits who have failed to report earnings 700 as required by § 65.2-712; (xvii) provide to any commissioner of the revenue, director of finance, or any 701 other officer of any county, city, or town performing any or all of the duties of a commissioner of the 702 revenue and to any dealer registered for the collection of the Communications Sales and Use Tax, a list 703 of the names, business addresses, and dates of registration of all dealers registered for such tax; (xviii) 704 provide to the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission for his 705 confidential use such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the collection of the motor 706 vehicle fuel sales tax; (xix) provide to the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services the 707 name and address of the taxpayer businesses licensed by the Commonwealth that identify themselves as 708 subject to regulation by the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to § 3.2-5130; and 709 (xx) provide to the developer or the economic development authority of a tourism project authorized by § 58.1-3851.1, upon entering into a written agreement, tax information facilitating the repayment of gap 710 711 financing; and (xxi) provide to the Virginia Retirement System and the Department of Human Resource 712 Management, after entering into a written agreement, such tax information as may be necessary to facilitate the enforcement of subdivision C 4 of § 9.1-401. The Tax Commissioner is further authorized 713 714 to enter into written agreements with duly constituted tax officials of other states and of the United States for the inspection of tax returns, the making of audits, and the exchange of information relating to 715 716 any tax administered by the Department of Taxation. Any person to whom tax information is divulged 717 pursuant to this section shall be subject to the prohibitions and penalties prescribed herein as though he were a tax official. 718

719 D. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provision of this title, the 720 commissioner of revenue or other assessing official is authorized to (i) provide, upon written request 721 stating the reason for such request, the chief executive officer of any county or city with information 722 furnished to the commissioner of revenue by the Tax Commissioner relating to the name and address of 723 any dealer located within the county or city who paid sales and use tax, for the purpose of verifying the local sales and use tax revenues payable to the county or city; (ii) provide to the Department of 724 725 Professional and Occupational Regulation for its confidential use the name, address, and amount of gross 726 receipts of any person, firm or entity subject to a criminal investigation of an unlawful practice of a 727 profession or occupation administered by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 728 only after the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation exhausts all other means of 729 obtaining such information; and (iii) provide to any representative of a condominium unit owners' 730 association, property owners' association or real estate cooperative association, or to the owner of 731 property governed by any such association, the names and addresses of parties having a security interest 732 in real property governed by any such association; however, such information shall be released only 733 upon written request stating the reason for such request, which reason shall be limited to proposing or 734 opposing changes to the governing documents of the association, and any information received by any 735 person under this subsection shall be used only for the reason stated in the written request. The treasurer 736 or other local assessing official may require any person requesting information pursuant to clause (iii) of

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this subsection to pay the reasonable cost of providing such information. Any person to whom taxinformation is divulged pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to the prohibitions and penaltiesprescribed herein as though he were a tax official.

740 Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A or B or any other provisions of this title, the
741 treasurer or other collector of taxes for a county, city or town is authorized to provide information
742 relating to any motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer obtained by such treasurer or collector in the course
743 of performing his duties to the commissioner of the revenue or other assessing official for such
744 jurisdiction for use by such commissioner or other official in performing assessments.

745 This section shall not be construed to prohibit a local tax official from imprinting or displaying on a
746 motor vehicle local license decal the year, make, and model and any other legal identification
747 information about the particular motor vehicle for which that local license decal is assigned.

E. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, state agencies and any other administrative or regulatory unit of state government shall divulge to the Tax Commissioner or his authorized agent, upon written request, the name, address, and social security number of a taxpayer, necessary for the performance of the Commissioner's official duties regarding the administration and enforcement of laws within the jurisdiction of the Department of Taxation. The receipt of information by the Tax Commissioner or his agent which may be deemed taxpayer information shall not relieve the Commissioner of the obligations under this section.

755 F. Additionally, it shall be unlawful for any person to disseminate, publish, or cause to be published 756 any confidential tax document which he knows or has reason to know is a confidential tax document. A 757 confidential tax document is any correspondence, document, or tax return that is prohibited from being 758 divulged by subsection A, B, C, or D and includes any document containing information on the 759 transactions, property, income, or business of any person, firm, or corporation that is required to be filed 760 with any state official by § 58.1-512. This prohibition shall not apply if such confidential tax document has been divulged or disseminated pursuant to a provision of law authorizing disclosure. Any person 761 violating the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 762

763 2. That § 9.1-406 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.

3. That any person who holds a position listed in the definition of "deceased person" under 764 765 § 9.1-400 of the Code of Virginia who is temporarily disabled in the direct line of duty as defined in § 9.1-400 of the Code of Virginia and who is required to have a state certification for purposes 766 of maintaining his employment shall not have such certification lapse during such period of 767 temporary disability, not to exceed two years. State agencies involved in such recertification, 768 including but not limited to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the Department 769 770 of Criminal Justice Services, the Virginia Department of Fire Programs, and the Virginia 771 Department of Health, may develop and promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this 772 act with input from persons holding the positions listed in the definition of "deceased person" or organizations that represent them. Certifying state agencies may suspend a person's certification 773 774 when, but for the provisions of this act, it would otherwise lapse. Certifying state agencies shall 775 provide a reasonable time frame for a person covered under the provisions of this act who wishes 776 to return to work to become recertified.

4. That each nonparticipating employer shall pay its pro rata share of estimated implementation
costs to the Virginia Retirement System and the Department of Human Resource Management in
an amount and manner and on such date as may be determined by the Virginia Retirement
System and the Department of Human Resource Management, respectively.

5. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2017, except the provisions ofthe fourth enactment of this act, which shall become effective on July 1, 2016.