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**SENATE BILL NO. 294**

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 8, 2018

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-4002 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Administrative Process Act; exemption for certain regulations of the Department of Veterans Services.*

Patrons—Edwards; Delegate: Bell, John J.

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 2.2-4002 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 2.2-4002. Exemptions from chapter generally.**

A. Although required to comply with § 2.2-4103 of the Virginia Register Act (§ 2.2-4100 et seq.), the following agencies shall be exempted from the provisions of this chapter, except to the extent that they are specifically made subject to §§ 2.2-4024, 2.2-4030, and 2.2-4031:

1. The General Assembly.

2. Courts, any agency of the Supreme Court, and any agency that by the Constitution is expressly granted any of the powers of a court of record.

3. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries in promulgating regulations regarding the management of wildlife and for all case decisions rendered pursuant to any provisions of Chapters 2 (§ 29.1-200 et seq.), 3 (§ 29.1-300 et seq.), 4 (§ 29.1-400 et seq.), 5 (§ 29.1-500 et seq.), and 7 (§ 29.1-700 et seq.) of Title 29.1.

4. The Virginia Housing Development Authority.

5. Municipal corporations, counties, and all local, regional or multijurisdictional authorities created under this Code, including those with federal authorities.

6. Educational institutions operated by the Commonwealth, provided that, with respect to § 2.2-4031, such educational institutions shall be exempt from the publication requirements only with respect to regulations that pertain to (i) their academic affairs, (ii) the selection, tenure, promotion and disciplining of faculty and employees, (iii) the selection of students, and (iv) rules of conduct and disciplining of students.

7. The Milk Commission in promulgating regulations regarding (i) producers' licenses and bases, (ii) classification and allocation of milk, computation of sales and shrinkage, and (iii) class prices for producers' milk, time and method of payment, butterfat testing and differential.

8. The Virginia Resources Authority.

9. Agencies expressly exempted by any other provision of this Code.

10. The Department of General Services in promulgating standards for the inspection of buildings for asbestos pursuant to § 2.2-1164.

11. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, in developing, issuing, and revising guidelines pursuant to § 23.1-207.

12. The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services in adopting regulations pursuant to subsection B of § 3.2-6002 and in adopting regulations pursuant to § 3.2-6023.

13. The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services in promulgating regulations pursuant to subsections B and D of § 3.2-3601, subsection B of § 3.2-3701, § 3.2-4002, subsections B and D of § 3.2-4801, §§ 3.2-5121 and 3.2-5206, and subsection A of § 3.2-5406.

14. The Board of Optometry when specifying therapeutic pharmaceutical agents, treatment guidelines, and diseases and abnormal conditions of the human eye and its adnexa for TPA-certification of optometrists pursuant to Article 5 (§ 54.1-3222 et seq.) of Chapter 32 of Title 54.1.

15. The Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services in adopting regulations pursuant to § 2.2-2001.3.

16. The State Board of Education, in developing, issuing, and revising guidelines pursuant to § 22.1-203.2.

17. The Virginia Racing Commission, (i) when acting by and through its duly appointed stewards or in matters related to any specific race meeting or (ii) in promulgating technical rules regulating actual live horse racing at race meetings licensed by the Commission.

18. The Virginia Small Business Financing Authority.

19. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority.

20. The Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services in adopting, amending or repealing regulations

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59 pursuant to subsection A (ii) of § 59.1-156.

60 21. The Insurance Continuing Education Board pursuant to § 38.2-1867.

61 22. The Board of Health in promulgating the list of diseases that shall be reported to the Department  
62 of Health pursuant to § 32.1-35 and in adopting, amending or repealing regulations pursuant to  
63 subsection C of § 35.1-14 that incorporate the Food and Drug Administration's Food Code pertaining to  
64 restaurants or food service.

65 23. The Commissioner of the Marine Resources Commission in setting a date of closure for the  
66 Chesapeake Bay purse seine fishery for Atlantic menhaden for reduction purposes pursuant to  
67 § 28.2-1000.2.

68 24. The Board of Pharmacy when specifying special subject requirements for continuing education  
69 for pharmacists pursuant to § 54.1-3314.1.

70 25. The Virginia Department of Veterans Services when promulgating rules and regulations pursuant  
71 to § 58.1-3219.7 or 58.1-3219.11.

72 26. The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services when developing, issuing, or revising any  
73 training standards established by the Criminal Justice Services Board under § 9.1-102, provided such  
74 actions are authorized by the Governor in the interest of public safety.

75 B. Agency action relating to the following subjects shall be exempted from the provisions of this  
76 chapter:

77 1. Money or damage claims against the Commonwealth or agencies thereof.

78 2. The award or denial of state contracts, as well as decisions regarding compliance therewith.

79 3. The location, design, specifications or construction of public buildings or other facilities.

80 4. Grants of state or federal funds or property.

81 5. The chartering of corporations.

82 6. Customary military, militia, naval or police functions.

83 7. The selection, tenure, dismissal, direction or control of any officer or employee of an agency of  
84 the Commonwealth.

85 8. The conduct of elections or eligibility to vote.

86 9. Inmates of prisons or other such facilities or parolees therefrom.

87 10. The custody of persons in, or sought to be placed in, mental health facilities or penal or other  
88 state institutions as well as the treatment, supervision, or discharge of such persons.

89 11. Traffic signs, markers or control devices.

90 12. Instructions for application or renewal of a license, certificate, or registration required by law.

91 13. Content of, or rules for the conduct of, any examination required by law.

92 14. The administration of pools authorized by Chapter 47 (§ 2.2-4700 et seq.).

93 15. Any rules for the conduct of specific lottery games, so long as such rules are not inconsistent  
94 with duly adopted regulations of the Virginia Lottery Board, and provided that such regulations are  
95 published and posted.

96 16. Orders condemning or closing any shellfish, finfish, or crustacea growing area and the shellfish,  
97 finfish or crustacea located thereon pursuant to Article 2 (§ 28.2-803 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 28.2.

98 17. Any operating procedures for review of child deaths developed by the State Child Fatality  
99 Review Team pursuant to § 32.1-283.1 and any operating procedures for review of adult deaths  
100 developed by the Adult Fatality Review Team pursuant to § 32.1-283.5.

101 18. The regulations for the implementation of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program and the  
102 activities of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program Committee pursuant to Chapter 25.1 (§  
103 54.1-2515 et seq.) of Title 54.1.

104 19. The process of reviewing and ranking grant applications submitted to the Commonwealth  
105 Neurotrauma Initiative Advisory Board pursuant to Article 12 (§ 51.5-178 et seq.) of Chapter 14 of Title  
106 51.5.

107 20. Loans from the Small Business Environmental Compliance Assistance Fund pursuant to Article 4  
108 (§ 10.1-1197.1 et seq.) of Chapter 11.1 of Title 10.1.

109 21. The Virginia Breeders Fund created pursuant to § 59.1-372.

110 22. The types of pari-mutuel wagering pools available for live or simulcast horse racing.

111 23. The administration of medication or other substances foreign to the natural horse.

112 24. Any rules adopted by the Charitable Gaming Board for the approval and conduct of game  
113 variations for the conduct of raffles, bingo, network bingo, and instant bingo games, provided that such  
114 rules are (i) consistent with Article 1.1:1 (§ 18.2-340.15 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 18.2 and (ii)  
115 published and posted.

116 C. Minor changes to regulations published in the Virginia Administrative Code under the Virginia  
117 Register Act (§ 2.2-4100 et seq.), made by the Virginia Code Commission pursuant to § 30-150, shall be  
118 exempt from the provisions of this chapter.