# **2018 SESSION**

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#### VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact §§ 3, 20, 28, and 29 of Chapter 638 of the Acts of Assembly of 2010, relating to the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority; annual 3 4 contributions.

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### Approved

[S 821]

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

8 1. That §§ 3, 20, 28, and 29 of Chapter 638 of the Acts of Assembly of 2010 are amended and 9 reenacted as follows: 10

§ 3. Definitions.

11 As used in this act, the following words and terms have the following meanings unless a different 12 meaning clearly appears from the context: 13

"Act" means the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority Act.

"Annual deficit budget" means the amount of budgeted expenditures in excess of anticipated revenues 14 15 from necessary each fiscal year for the payment of operations or capital budgets.

"Annual contribution" means the portion of the annual budget attributable to each participating 16 17 political subdivision for each fiscal year.

18 "Authority" means the New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority created by 19 this Act.

20 "Board" means the governing body of the Authority.

21 "Bonds" means any bonds, notes, debentures, grant obligations, or other evidence of financial 22 indebtedness issued by this Authority pursuant to this Act. 23

"Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Virginia.

24 "Facility" means any and all buildings, structures, or facilities purchased, constructed, or otherwise 25 acquired or operated by the Authority pursuant to the provisions of this Act. Any facility may consist of 26 or include any or all buildings or other structures, improvements, additions, extensions, replacements, 27 machinery, or equipment, together with appurtenances, lands, rights in land, water rights, franchises, 28 furnishings, landscaping, utilities, roadways, or other facilities necessary or desirable in connection 29 therewith or incidental thereto.

30 "Participating political subdivisions" means the Towns of Blacksburg and Christiansburg, the County 31 of Montgomery, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University or any other political subdivision 32 that may join or has joined the Authority pursuant to §§ 4 and 5 of this Act.

"Political subdivision" means a county, city, town, public body, public authority, institution (including an institution of higher education), or commission of the Commonwealth. 33 34

35 "University" means Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

36 § 20. Annual deficit budget.

A. The Board shall have full authority to adopt its operating and capital budgets annual budget on an 37 annual fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) basis, and to amend the same from time to time, and for the 38 39 annual deficit to be divided among all participating political subdivisions.

40 B. The Board shall have the full authority to develop and adopt a formula for allocating to the 41 participating political subdivisions the responsibility to pay for the annual budget. Such allocation 42 formula shall be presented to the participating political subdivisions on or before February 1, 2019. The 43 participating political subdivisions shall consider and make a decision as to the approval of the 44 allocation formula on or before May 1, 2019. If each of the participating political subdivisions approves 45 the allocation formula, each shall pay its annual contribution as allocated by the formula. If all participating political subdivisions do not approve the application formula by July 1, 2019, each 46 participating political subdivision's annual contribution shall be equal to the Authority's annual budget 47 for fiscal year 2019 divided by the number of participating political subdivisions and shall continue to 48 49 be so calculated for each fiscal year thereafter unless and until an allocation formula is approved by 50 each participating political subdivision. Once approved by each participating political subdivision, the Board shall use the allocation formula to determine each political subdivision's annual contribution. The 51 Board shall have full authority to amend the allocation formula, but any amendment shall be submitted 52 53 to each participating political subdivision on or before the next February 1 after the amendment is 54 adopted by the Board and shall be approved by each political subdivision by the May 1 preceding the 55 fiscal year in which the amendment is to go into effect.

56 C. Each participating political subdivision shall contribute its respective one-quarter share of the SB821ER

57 annual deficit annual contribution each year and otherwise as required; however, such obligation shall 58 be subject to and dependent upon annual appropriations being made from time to time by the governing 59 body of each such respective participating political subdivision, and as to the university by normal 60 approval of appropriations, and shall not be deemed to constitute a debt of such participating political 61 subdivisions within the meaning of Article VII, Section 10 of the Constitution of Virginia, and as to the 62 university, within the meaning of Article X, Section 9 of the Constitution of Virginia, or any applicable statutory debt limitation. Should any participating political subdivision fail to contribute in full its 63 64 proportionate share of the annual deficit contribution, it shall remain a member of the Authority, but its 65 representative on the Board shall not be entitled to cast a vote on any Authority matter until that 66 participating political subdivision's share of the annual deficit contribution has been paid in full. Further, should any participating political subdivision fail to contribute in full its proportionate share of the 67 annual deficit contribution, the Authority shall have a lien on any share of the Authority's profit or 68 surplus revenues otherwise entitled to be distributed to the participating political subdivision. A participating political subdivision may contribute a portion or all of its share of the annual deficit 69 70 contribution through "in-kind" contributions, subject to the approval of such contribution and valuation 71 72 by the Authority.

§ 28. Withdrawal of membership.

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74 A participating political subdivision may withdraw its membership in the Authority at the end of any 75 fiscal year if the withdrawing participating political subdivision has given notice to the Authority and all 76 other participating political subdivisions of its intention to withdraw at least one year before the end of 77 such fiscal year and the withdrawing participating political subdivision has paid in full its share of the 78 annual deficit contribution, if any;, provided that no participating political subdivision may withdraw its 79 membership in the Authority if the Authority has any outstanding debt without written approval of each 80 participating political subdivision. As used in this section, the term "debt" shall mean a monetary obligation, whether general or limited in any way, to repay a loan or bond, or any long-term obligation, 81 82 whether absolute or contingent in any way, to refund or reimburse any agency or entity for grant funds 83 received by the Authority. 84

§ 29. Dissolution of Authority.

85 Whenever it shall appear to the Board or to all participating political subdivisions that the need for the Authority no longer exists, all participating political subdivisions may petition the Circuit Court of 86 Montgomery County, Virginia, for the dissolution of the Authority. If the court determines that the need 87 88 for the Authority as set forth in this Act no longer exists and that all debts and other obligations of any 89 kind have been fully paid or provided for:

1. The Court shall enter an order dissolving the Authority; and

91 2. The remaining assets of the Authority shall be distributed to the participating political subdivisions 92 in proportion to their respective shares of the annual deficit contributions less any amounts owed to the 93 Authority by *each* such participating political subdivision.

94 Each participating political subdivision and all holders of the Authority's bonds shall be made parties 95 to any such proceeding and shall be given notice as provided by law. Any party defendant may reply to 96 such petition at any time within six months after the filing of the petition. An appeal from the final 97 judgment of the court shall lie to the Supreme Court of Virginia.