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## SENATE BILL NO. 989

Offered January 24, 2018

A BILL to amend and reenact § 59.1-9.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Antitrust Act; exemption for certain hospitals.

Patron—Wagner

Unanimous consent to introduce

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 59.1-9.4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 59.1-9.4. Certain activities not prohibited.**

(a) A. No provision of this chapter shall be construed to make illegal:

(1) 1. The activities of any labor or professional organization or of individual members thereof that are directed solely to labor or professional objectives legitimate under the laws of ~~this the~~ Commonwealth or the United States.

(2) 2. The activities of any agricultural or horticultural cooperative organization, or of individual members thereof, to the extent necessary to achieve the aims of the enacted laws of either ~~this the~~ Commonwealth or the United States.

(3) 3. The bona fide religious and charitable activities of any nonprofit corporation, trust or organization established exclusively for religious or charitable purposes.

(4) ~~The activities of any nonprofit hospital, or of any officer, director or employee thereof, that are directed to a reduction in services or an improvement in the quality of services to the extent that any such reduction or improvement will reduce, stabilize or limit cost increases.~~

(b) B. Nothing contained in this chapter shall make unlawful conduct that is authorized, regulated or approved (1) (i) by a statute of ~~this the~~ Commonwealth, or (2) (ii) by an administrative or constitutionally established agency of ~~this the~~ Commonwealth or of the United States having jurisdiction of the subject matter and having authority to consider the anticompetitive effect, if any, of such conduct. Nothing in this ~~paragraph~~ subsection shall be construed to alter or terminate any other applicable limitation, exemption or exclusion.

INTRODUCED

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