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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1981** 

Offered January 9, 2019 Prefiled January 7, 2019

A BILL to amend and reenact § 53.1-48 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Correctional Enterprises; procedure for exemptions to the mandatory purchase provisions.

Patron—Fowler

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 53.1-48 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 53.1-48. Exceptions as to purchases.

A department, institution, or agency of the Commonwealth may be granted an exemption from the provisions of § 53.1-47 with the *written* consent of both the Director of the Division of Purchases and Supply and the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Correctional Enterprises Program in any case where (i) the article so produced or manufactured does not meet the reasonable requirements of the department, institution, or agency, (ii) an identical article can be obtained at a verified lesser cost from the private sector, which is evidenced by a verified request for pricing, or (iii) the requisition made cannot be complied with on account of an insufficient supply of the articles or supplies required, or otherwise. In any case where an exemption from the provisions of § 53.1-47 is *not* granted as provided in this section, the Director of Purchases and Supply and the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Correctional Enterprises Program shall submit provide a written justification for the exemption denial to the Director of the Department of Corrections and the Director of the Department of General Services department, institution, or agency that requested the exemption.