# **2019 SESSION**

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#### **HOUSE BILL NO. 2192**

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee on General Laws

on January 31, 2019)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Rush)

4 5 6 A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-2279 and 15.2-4901 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the 7 Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 9 of Title 22.1 an article numbered 3, consisting of sections 8 numbered 22.1-141.1 and 22.1-141.2, and by adding a section numbered 56-589.1, relating to the 9 modernization of public school buildings and facilities.

10 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 2.2-2279 and 15.2-4901 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the 11 Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 9 of Title 22.1 an article numbered 3, 12 consisting of sections numbered 22.1-141.1 and 22.1-141.2, and by adding a section numbered 13 14 56-589.1 as follows:

15 § 2.2-2279. Short title; definitions.

16 A. This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Virginia Small Business Financing Act."

17 B. As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Business enterprise" means any (i) industry for the manufacturing, processing, assembling, storing, 18 19 warehousing, servicing, distributing, or selling of any products of agriculture, mining, or industry or professional services; (ii) commercial enterprise making sales or providing services to industries 20 21 described in clause (i); (iii) enterprise for research and development, including but not limited to 22 scientific laboratories; (iv) not-for-profit entity operating in the Commonwealth; (v) entity acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining, or operating a qualified transportation facility under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 33.2-1800 et seq.); (vi) entity acquiring, constructing, 23 24 25 improving, maintaining, or operating a qualified energy project; (vii) entity acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining, or operating a qualified pollution control project; or (viii) entity that modernizes 26 public school buildings or facilities pursuant to Article 3 (§ 22.1-141.1 et seq.) of Chapter 9 of Title 27 28 22.1; or (ix) other business as will be in furtherance of the public purposes of this article.

29 "Cost," as applied to the eligible business, means the cost of construction; the cost of acquisition of 30 all lands, structures, rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and other property rights and interests; the cost 31 of demolishing, removing, rehabilitating, or relocating any buildings or structures on lands acquired, including the cost of acquiring any such lands to which such buildings or structures may be moved, 32 rehabilitated, or relocated; the cost of all labor, materials, machinery and equipment, financing charges, 33 34 letter of credit or other credit enhancement fees, insurance premiums, interest on all bonds prior to and 35 during construction or acquisition and, if deemed advisable by the Authority, for a period not exceeding 36 one year after completion of such construction or acquisition, cost of engineering, financial and legal 37 services, plans, specifications, studies, surveys, estimates of cost and of revenues, commissions, guaranty 38 fees, other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicality of constructing, 39 financing, or operating a project of an eligible business; administrative expenses, provisions for working 40 capital, reserves for interest and for extensions, enlargements, additions, improvements and replacements, 41 and such other expenses as may be necessary or incidental to the construction or acquisition of a project 42 of an eligible business or the financing of such construction, acquisition, or expansion and the placing of 43 a project of an eligible business in operation. Any obligation or expense incurred by the Commonwealth or any agency thereof, with the approval of the Authority for studies, surveys, borings, preparation of 44 plans and specifications, or other work or materials in connection with the construction or acquisition of 45 a project of an eligible business may be regarded as a part of the cost of a project of an eligible 46 47 business and may be reimbursed to the Commonwealth or any agency thereof out of the proceeds of the bonds issued therefor. **48** 

49 "Eligible business" means any person engaged in one or more business enterprises in the 50 Commonwealth that satisfies one or more of the following requirements: (i) is a for-profit enterprise that (a) has received \$10 million or less in annual gross income under generally accepted accounting 51 principles for each of its last three fiscal years or lesser time period if it has been in existence less than 52 53 three years, (b) has fewer than 250 employees, (c) has a net worth of \$2 million or less, (d) exists for 54 the sole purpose of developing or operating a qualified transportation facility under the Public-Private Transportation Act of 1995 (§ 33.2-1800 et seq.), (e) exists for the primary purpose of developing or 55 operating a qualified energy project, (f) is required by state or federal law to develop or operate a 56 57 qualified pollution control project, or (g) meets such other satisfactory requirements as the Board shall determine from time to time if it finds and determines such person is in need of its assistance or (ii) is a 58 59 not-for-profit entity granted tax-exempt status under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and

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60 operating in the Commonwealth.

"Federal Act" means the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, 15 U.S.C. § 661 et seq., as 61 62 amended from time to time.

63 "Indenture" means any trust agreement, deed of trust, mortgage, or other security agreement under 64 which bonds authorized pursuant to this article shall be issued or secured.

65 "Internal Revenue Code" means the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

66 "Lender" means any federal- or state-chartered bank, federal land bank, production credit association, bank for cooperatives, federal- or state-chartered savings institution, building and loan association, small 67 68 business investment company, or any other financial institution qualified within the Commonwealth to originate and service loans, including but not limited to insurance companies, credit unions, investment 69 70 banking or brokerage companies, and mortgage loan companies.

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"Loan" means any lease, loan agreement, or sales contract as hereinafter defined as follows:

72 (i) 1. "Lease" means any lease containing an option to purchase the project or projects of the eligible business being financed for a nominal sum upon payment in full, or provision thereof, of all bonds 73 issued in connection with the eligible business and all interest thereon and principal of and premium, if 74 75 any, thereon and all other expenses in connection therewith.

(ii) 2. "Loan agreement" means an agreement providing for a loan of proceeds from the sale and 76 issuance of bonds by the Authority or by a lender with which the Authority has contracted to loan such 77 78 proceeds to one or more contracting parties to be used to pay the cost of one or more projects of an 79 eligible business and providing for the repayment of such loan including but not limited to all interest 80 thereon, and principal of and premium, if any, thereon and all other expenses in connection therewith, by such contracting party or parties and which may provide for such loans to be secured or evidenced 81 by one or more notes, debentures, bonds, or other secured or unsecured debt obligations of such 82 contracting party or parties, delivered to the Authority or to a trustee under an indenture pursuant to 83 84 which the bonds were issued.

85 (iii) 3. "Sales contract" means a contract providing for the sale of one or more projects of an eligible 86 business to one or more contracting parties and includes but is not limited to a contract providing for 87 payment of the purchase price including but not limited to all interest thereon, and principal of and 88 premium, if any, thereon and all other expenses in connection therewith, in one or more installments. If 89 the sales contract permits title to a project being sold to an eligible business to pass to such contracting 90 party or parties prior to payment in full of the entire purchase price, it also shall provide for such contracting party or parties to deliver to the Authority or to the trustee under the indenture pursuant to 91 92 which the bonds were issued, one or more notes, debentures, bonds, or other secured or unsecured debt 93 obligations of such contracting party or parties providing for timely payments of the purchase price 94 thereof. 95

"Municipality" means any county or incorporated city or town in the Commonwealth.

96 "Preferred lender" means a bank that is subject to continuing supervision and examination by state or 97 federal chartering, licensing, or similar regulatory authority satisfactory to the Authority and that meets 98 the eligibility requirements established by the Authority.

99 "Qualified energy project" means a solar-powered or wind-powered electricity generation facility located in the Commonwealth on premises owned or leased by an eligible customer-generator, as defined 100 in § 56-594, the electricity generated from which is sold exclusively to the eligible customer-generator 101 102 under a power purchase agreement used to provide third party financing of the costs of such a renewable generation facility (third party power purchase agreement) pursuant to a pilot program established under Chapter 382 of the Acts of Assembly of 2013. 103 104

"Qualified pollution control project" means environmental pollution control and prevention equipment 105 certified by the business enterprise or eligible business as being needed to comply with the federal Clean 106 Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.), the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.), or the 107 108 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. § 6901 et seq.).

109 "Revenues" means any and all fees, rates, rentals, profits, and receipts collected by, payable to, or 110 otherwise derived by, the Authority, and all other moneys and income of whatsoever kind or character collected by, payable to, or otherwise derived by, the Authority in connection with loans to any eligible 111 112 business in furtherance of the purposes of this article.

"Statewide Development Company" means the corporation chartered under this article for purposes of 113 114 qualification as a state development company as such term is defined in the Federal Act. 115

#### § 15.2-4901. Purpose of chapter.

116 It is the intent of the legislature by the passage of this chapter to authorize the creation of industrial 117 development authorities by the localities in the Commonwealth so that such authorities may acquire, own, lease, and dispose of properties and make loans to the end that such authorities may be able to 118 promote industry and develop trade by inducing manufacturing, industrial, governmental, nonprofit and 119 120 commercial enterprises, and institutions of higher education to locate in or remain in the Commonwealth 121 and further the use of its agricultural products and natural resources, and to vest such authorities with all

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122 powers that may be necessary to enable them to accomplish such purposes, which powers shall be 123 exercised for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth, either through the increase of their 124 commerce, or through the promotion of their safety, health, welfare, convenience, or prosperity. Such 125 authority shall not itself be authorized to operate any such manufacturing, industrial, nonprofit or 126 commercial enterprise, or any facility of an institution of higher education.

127 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 128 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to pollution control facilities 129 to the end that such authorities may protect and promote the health of the inhabitants of the 130 Commonwealth and the conservation, protection, and improvement of its natural resources by exercising such powers for the control or abatement of land, sewer, water, air, noise, and general environmental 131 132 pollution derived from the operation of any industrial or medical facility and to vest such authorities 133 with all powers that may be necessary to enable them to accomplish such purpose, which powers shall 134 be exercised for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth, either through the increase of their 135 commerce, or through the promotion of their safety, health, welfare, convenience, or prosperity.

136 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 137 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to medical facilities and 138 facilities for the residence or care of the aged to the end that such authorities may protect and promote 139 the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth by assisting in the acquisition, 140 construction, equipping, expansion, enlargement, and improvement of medical facilities and facilities for 141 the residence or care of the aged in order to provide modern and efficient medical services to the 142 inhabitants of the Commonwealth and care of the aged of the Commonwealth in accordance with their 143 special needs and also by assisting in the refinancing of medical facilities and facilities for the residence 144 or care of the aged owned and operated by organizations which are exempt from taxation pursuant to § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, in order to reduce the costs to residents 145 146 of the Commonwealth of utilizing such facilities and to vest such authorities with all powers that may 147 be necessary to enable them to accomplish such purposes, which powers shall be exercised for the 148 benefit of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and for the promotion of their health and welfare. It is 149 not intended hereby that any such authority shall itself be authorized to operate any such medical facility 150 or facility for the residence or care of the aged.

151 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 152 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to facilities for use by 153 organizations (other than institutions organized and operated exclusively for religious purposes) which 154 are described in § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, and which are exempt 155 from federal income taxation pursuant to § 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, to 156 the end that such authorities may protect or promote the safety, health, welfare, convenience, and 157 prosperity of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth by assisting in the acquisition, construction, 158 equipping, expansion, enlargement, improvement, financing, and refinancing of such facilities of the 159 aforesaid entities and organizations in order to provide operations, recreational, activity centers, and 160 other facilities for the use of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and to vest such authorities with all powers that may be necessary to enable them to accomplish such purposes, which powers shall be 161 162 exercised for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and for the promotion of their safety, 163 health, welfare, convenience, or prosperity. It is not intended hereby that any such authority shall itself 164 be authorized to operate any such facility.

165 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 166 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to facilities for accredited nonprofit private institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth whose primary purpose is to 167 168 provide collegiate or graduate education and not to provide religious training or theological education to 169 the end that such authorities may protect and promote the health and welfare of the inhabitants of the 170 Commonwealth by assisting in the acquisition, construction, equipping, expansion, enlargement, and 171 improvement of facilities of aforesaid institutions in order to provide improved educational facilities for 172 the use of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and to vest such authorities with all powers that may be 173 necessary to enable them to accomplish such purposes, which powers shall be exercised for the benefit 174 of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and for the promotion of their health, welfare, convenience, or 175 prosperity. It is not intended hereby that any such authority shall itself be authorized to operate any such 176 educational facility.

177 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant
178 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to facilities for a locality, the
179 Commonwealth and its agencies, and governmental and nonprofit organizations and to vest such
180 authorities with all powers that may be necessary to enable them to accomplish such purposes, which
181 powers shall be exercised for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth and for the promotion
182 of their health, welfare, convenience, or prosperity.

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183 It is further the intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 184 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to facilities for museums and 185 historical education, demonstration, and interpretation, together with any and all buildings, structures, or 186 other facilities necessary or desirable in connection with the foregoing, for use by nonprofit 187 organizations in order to promote tourism and economic development in the Commonwealth, to promote 188 the knowledge of and appreciation by the citizens of the Commonwealth of the historical and cultural 189 development and heritage of the Commonwealth and the United States and to promote thereby their 190 health, welfare, convenience, and prosperity. It is not intended hereby that any such authority shall itself 191 be authorized to operate any such facility.

192 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 193 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to facilities devoted to the staging of equine events and activities (other than racing) for use by governmental or nonprofit, 194 195 nonreligious organizations and operated by such governmental or nonprofit, nonreligious organizations in order to promote the equine industry and equine-related activities (other than racing) which are integral 196 197 to the Commonwealth's economy and heritage and to promote thereby the safety, health, welfare, 198 convenience, and prosperity of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth.

199 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to 200 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to acquiring, developing, 201 owning, and operating an industrial park and any utilities that are intended primarily to serve the park 202 and to issue bonds for such purposes. The bonds may be secured by revenues generated by the industrial 203 park or the utilities being financed or by any other funds of the authority.

204 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant to industrial development authorities created by one or more municipalities whose housing authorities have 205 not been activated as provided by §§ 36-4 and 36-4.1, in addition to the powers previously or hereafter 206 207 granted in this chapter, the powers contained herein with respect to facilities used primarily for single or 208 multi-family residences in order to promote safe and affordable housing in the Commonwealth and to 209 benefit thereby the safety, health, welfare, and prosperity of the inhabitants of the Commonwealth. It is 210 not intended hereby that any such authority shall itself be authorized to operate any such facility or 211 exercise any powers of eminent domain set forth in § 36-27.

212 It is the further intent of the legislature and shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to grant 213 industrial development authorities the powers contained herein with respect to public school buildings 214 and facilities to promote the safety, health, welfare, convenience, and prosperity of the school children 215 of the Commonwealth by assisting in the acquisition, construction, equipping, expansion, enlargement, 216 improvement, financing, and refinancing of such facilities of school boards in order to provide for the 217 modernization of public school buildings or facilities pursuant to Article 3 (§ 22.1-141.1 et seq.) of 218 Chapter 9 of Title 22.1.

219 In any instance in this chapter where an industrial development authority may issue bonds through its 220 authority to finance, the authority may also refinance such bonds. 221

This chapter shall be liberally construed in conformity with these intentions.

Article 3.

Public School Building and Facilities Modernization.

### § 22.1-141.1. Standards for buildings and facilities.

225 It is the intent of the General Assembly that new public school buildings and facilities and 226 improvements and renovations to existing public school buildings and facilities be designed, constructed, 227 maintained, and operated to generate more electricity than consumed and that such energy-positive 228 building design be based on industry standards contained in the design guide of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers or ASHRAE, entitled "Achieving Zero Energy—Advanced Energy Design Guide for K-12 School Buildings," dated February 1, 2018, and any 229 230 231 subsequent updates or similar industry standards. 232

## § 22.1-141.2. Authority to modernize public school lease agreements.

233 A. Prior to undertaking the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of a new public school 234 building or facility or the improvement or renovation of an existing school building or facility, a local 235 school board may evaluate whether entering into a lease with a private developer will assist the school 236 board in meeting the standards set forth in § 22.1-141.1.

237 B. In order to meet the design, construction, maintenance, and operation standards set forth in 238 § 22.1-141.1 a school board may enter into a lease with a private developer that may include the following: (i) design of the building and facilities; (ii) construction of the building and facilities; (iii) 239 240 financing of the project as defined in § 15.2-1815; (iv) operation of the heating, cooling, and renewable 241 energy systems, including interconnect agreements with the regulated electric utility, maintenance of all 242 such systems, responding to comfort complaints, and any other operational or maintenance-related 243 issues during the lease term; and (v) such other terms as mutually agreed upon by the local school 244 board and the private developer. Such lease may (a) be for the real property primarily used by the local

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school board and owned by the private entity, (b) be a capital or operating lease, (c) be exempt from
real property taxation pursuant to subdivision (a) (1) of Article X, Section 6 of the Constitution of
Virginia, and (d) contain a covenant that the rent shall not be reduced from the rent stated in the lease.
Such lease shall not exceed 35 years in duration.

249 § 56-589.1. Energy generation by public school buildings and facilities.

A. A school board of a school division located in a locality that is a non-jurisdictional customer of a utility pursuant to § 56-234 and that owns or operates a public school building or facility that participates in school modernization pursuant to Article 3 (§ 22.1-141.1 et seq.) of Chapter 9 of Title 22.1 that generates energy derived from sunlight may enter into a contract to generate such energy on terms and conditions as may be negotiated between the customer and the utility. Nothing in this section shall render any contract or arrangement between a utility and a non-jurisdictional customer subject to the jurisdiction of the State Corporation Commission.

257 B. The solar-powered renewable energy generation facilities associated with a public school building
258 or facility owned or operated by a school board shall be located on the same real property upon which
259 the public school buildings and facilities are located, and such solar-powered renewable energy
260 generation facilities shall not generate electricity for any use not located on such real property.