

19103261D

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2423**

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled January 8, 2019

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 52, consisting of sections numbered 59.1-571 through 59.1-575, relating to gender-based price discrimination for apparel-cleaning services; civil penalty.*

Patrons—Levine, Gooditis, Hope, Kory, Price, Rodman and Simon

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 59.1 a chapter numbered 52, consisting of sections numbered 59.1-571 through 59.1-575, as follows:**

**CHAPTER 52.**

**APPAREL CLEANING SERVICES.**

**§ 59.1-571. Definitions.**

"Apparel-cleaning services" means dry cleaning, laundering, washing, drying, ironing, folding, and other clothing cleaning services provided to individual retail customers. "Apparel-cleaning services" does not include such services that are provided for uniforms, linens, and other textile products of a business establishment.

"Board" means the Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Cleaning establishment" means dry cleaners or laundries providing retail apparel-cleaning services to individuals.

"Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

**§ 59.1-572. Price discrimination prohibited.**

A. No cleaning establishment may discriminate, with respect to the price charged for apparel-cleaning services of similar or like kind, against a person because of the person's gender.

B. Nothing in subsection A prohibits price differences based specifically upon the amount of time, difficulty, or cost of providing the apparel-cleaning services.

**§ 59.1-573. Price list.**

Each cleaning establishment shall provide a customer with a complete written price list upon request.

**§ 59.1-574. Regulations.**

The Board may adopt all necessary regulations for the enforcement of this chapter.

**§ 59.1-575. Enforcement; civil penalty.**

A. The Department shall administer this chapter and shall have the power to monitor the implementation and operation of this chapter and to administer, enforce, and interpret the regulations promulgated by the Board.

B. Any cleaning establishment that knowingly violates any provision of this chapter shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than \$100 for each such violation. Such amount shall be recovered in a civil action brought by the Department and be paid into the State Literary Fund.

INTRODUCED

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