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## HOUSE BILL NO. 892

Offered January 25, 1994

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.1-567 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Liaison Office.*

Patrons—Guest, Baker, Bloxom, Clement, Croshaw, Darner, DeBoer, Fisher, Hamilton, Hargrove, Heilig, Hull, Jackson, Katzen, Keating, Kidd, Kilgore, McClure, McDonnell, Miller, Nelms, Orrock, Purkey, Reid, Rhodes and Thomas; Senators: Colgan, Potts and Wampler

Referred to Committee on General Laws

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 2.1-567 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.1-567. Responsibilities of Office.

It shall be the responsibility of the Office, through its Director, generally, to serve as an institutional and organizational link between the government of the Commonwealth of Virginia and those agencies, bureaus, departments, offices, and entities of the United States government located in the City of Washington, D. C., and its immediate environs. The responsibilities of the Office shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

1. Monitoring and tracking the development of federal legislation which is of interest to the Commonwealth;

2. Monitoring the development of federal agency rules and regulations of interest to the Commonwealth;

3. Conducting in-depth analysis of federal legislation and regulations as to their impact upon the Commonwealth;

4. Providing state agencies with up-to-date information on the status of federal legislation and regulations;

5. Influencing the development of federal legislation by keeping the State Congressional Delegation informed about the Governor's priorities;

6. Influencing the making of federal agency rules and regulations by keeping federal officials informed of the Commonwealth's position;

7. Alerting state agencies and local governments to early opportunities for federal grants;

8. Joining in cooperative efforts with other states, through their Washington offices, on issues of mutual concern;

9. Maintaining personal contacts with Congressional staffs, key federal agency officials, public interest groups, etc.;

10. Writing, or advising upon, testimony to be presented by the Governor or state agency heads before Congressional committees;

11. Assisting state agency officials in resolving administrative problems which occur between the state and federal agencies;

12. Monitoring and tracking the status of federal grant applications submitted by state agencies;

13. Assisting state agencies in obtaining needed information from the federal government;

14. Serving as a base office for state officials traveling to Washington;

15. Arranging meetings between federal and state officials;

16. Serving as an information source about the Commonwealth when called upon by another state's Congressional delegate's staff;

17. Preparing analyses of legislation and initiatives which originate with the federal government, other states and interstate groups, including preparing statements of their potential impact on the Commonwealth, and coordinating state positions on such legislation and initiatives; ~~and~~

18. Maintaining liaison with other states and interstate groups; *and*

19. *Reporting in a timely manner to the General Assembly all federal mandates and regulations which may have an effect on the Commonwealth. Such report shall contain the names of those Virginia congressional members who voted for such mandates and regulations.*

INTRODUCED

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