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## SENATE BILL NO. 389

Offered January 22, 1996

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.1-116, 51.1-126, and 51.1-126.1 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 23-77.4 and 51.1-126.2, relating to the University of Virginia Medical Center.*

Patrons—Walker, Chichester, Gartlan, Holland, Houck and Stosch; Delegates: Dickinson, Heilig, Howell and Murphy

Referred to the Committee on Finance

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

**1. That §§ 2.1-116, 51.1-126, and 51.1-126.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 23-77.4 and 51.1-126.2 as follows:**

- § 2.1-116. Certain officers and employees exempt from chapter.  
The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:
1. Officers and employees for whom the Constitution specifically directs the manner of selection;
  2. Officers and employees of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals;
  3. Officers appointed by the Governor, whether confirmation by the General Assembly or by either house thereof is required or not;
  4. Officers elected by popular vote or by the General Assembly or either house thereof;
  5. Members of boards and commissions however selected;
  6. Judges, referees, receivers, arbiters, masters and commissioners in chancery, commissioners of accounts, and any other persons appointed by any court to exercise judicial functions, and jurors and notaries public;
  7. Officers and employees of the General Assembly and persons employed to conduct temporary or special inquiries, investigations, or examinations on its behalf;
  8. The presidents, and teaching and research staffs of state educational institutions;
  9. Commissioned officers and enlisted personnel of the national guard and the naval militia;
  10. Student employees in institutions of learning, and patient or inmate help in other state institutions;
  11. Upon general or special authorization of the Governor, laborers, temporary employees and employees compensated on an hourly or daily basis;
  12. County, city, town and district officers, deputies, assistants and employees;
  13. The employees of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission;
  14. The following officers and employees of the Virginia Retirement System: retirement system chief investment officer, retirement system investment officer, retirement system assistant investment officer and investment financial analyst;
  15. Employees whose positions are identified by the State Council of Higher Education and the boards of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, the Science Museum of Virginia, the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, the Virginia Museum of Natural History and The Library of Virginia, and approved by the Director of the Department of Personnel and Training as requiring specialized and professional training;
  16. Employees of the State Lottery Department;
  17. Production workers for the Virginia Industries for the Blind Sheltered Workshop programs; and
  18. Employees of the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals and the University of Virginia Medical Center who are determined by the Department of Personnel and Training to be health care providers; however, any changes in compensation plans for such employees shall be subject to the review and approval of the Secretary of Education. Such employees shall remain subject to the provisions of Chapter 10.01 (§ 2.1-116.01 et seq.) of Title 2.1; and
  19. *Employees of the University of Virginia Medical Center. Any changes in compensation plans for such employees shall be subject to the review and approval of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia. Such employees shall remain subject to the provisions of Chapter 10.01 (§ 2.1-116.01 et seq.) of Title 2.1; and*
  20. In executive branch agencies the employee who has accepted serving in the capacity of chief deputy, or equivalent, and the employee who has accepted serving in the capacity of a confidential assistant for policy or administration. An employee serving in either one of these two positions, shall be deemed to serve on an employment at will basis. An agency may not exceed two employees who serve

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60 in this exempt capacity.

61 § 23-77.4. *Medical center management.*

62 *The General Assembly recognizes and finds that the economic viability of the University of Virginia*  
63 *Medical Center, hereafter referred to as the Medical Center, together with the requirement for its*  
64 *specialized management and operation, and the need of the Medical Center to participate in cooperative*  
65 *arrangements reflective of changes in health care delivery, as set forth in § 23-77.3, are dependent upon*  
66 *the ability of the management of the Medical Center to make and implement promptly decisions*  
67 *necessary to conduct the affairs of the Medical Center in an efficient, competitive manner. The General*  
68 *Assembly also recognizes and finds that it is critical to, and in the best interests of, the Commonwealth*  
69 *that the University continue to fulfill its mission of providing quality medical and health sciences*  
70 *education and related research and, through the presence of its Medical Center, of providing quality*  
71 *medical care to patients. Because the General Assembly finds that the ability of the University to fulfill*  
72 *this mission is highly dependent upon revenues derived from providing health care through its Medical*  
73 *Center, and because the General Assembly also finds that the ability of the Medical Center to continue*  
74 *to be a reliable source of such revenues is heavily dependent upon its ability to compete with other*  
75 *providers of health care which are not subject to the requirements of law applicable to agencies of the*  
76 *Commonwealth, the University is hereby authorized to implement the following modifications to the*  
77 *management and operation of the affairs of the Medical Center in order to enhance its economic*  
78 *viability:*

79 *1. Capital projects.*

80 *For any Medical Center capital project not funded by an appropriation of general fund revenues, all*  
81 *post-appropriation review, approval, administrative, and policy and procedure functions performed by*  
82 *the Department of General Services, the Division of Engineering and Buildings, the Department of*  
83 *Planning and Budget and any other agency that supports these functions performed by these*  
84 *departments are hereby delegated to the University, subject to the following stipulations and conditions:*  
85 *(i) the Board of Visitors shall develop and implement an appropriate system of policies, procedures,*  
86 *reviews and approvals for Medical Center capital projects to which this section applies; (ii) the system*  
87 *so adopted shall provide for the review and approval of any Medical Center capital project to which*  
88 *this section applies in order to ensure that, except as provided in clause (iii), the cost of any such*  
89 *capital project does not exceed the sum appropriated therefor and that the project otherwise complies*  
90 *with all requirements of the Code of Virginia regarding capital projects, excluding only the*  
91 *post-appropriation review, approval, administrative, and policy and procedure functions performed by*  
92 *the Department of General Services, the Division of Engineering and Buildings, the Department of*  
93 *Planning and Budget and any other agency that supports the functions performed by these departments;*  
94 *(iii) the Board of Visitors may, during any fiscal year, approve a transfer of up to a total of fifteen*  
95 *percent of the total nongeneral-fund appropriation for the Medical Center in order to supplement funds*  
96 *appropriated for a capital project or capital projects of the Medical Center, provided that the Board of*  
97 *Visitors finds that the transfer is necessary to effectuate the original intention of the General Assembly*  
98 *in making the appropriation for the capital project or projects in question; (iv) the University shall*  
99 *report to the Department of General Services on the status of any such capital project prior to*  
100 *commencement of construction of, and at the time of acceptance of, any such capital project; and (v) the*  
101 *University shall ensure that BOCA Code and fire safety inspections of any such project are conducted*  
102 *and that such projects are inspected by the State Fire Marshal or his designee prior to their*  
103 *certification for building occupancy. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to relieve the University of*  
104 *any reporting requirement pursuant to §§ 2.1-403 and 2.1-404.*

105 *2. Leases of property.*

106 *a. The University shall be exempt from the provisions of § 2.1-504.2 and from any rules, regulations*  
107 *and guidelines of the Division of Engineering and Buildings in relation to leases of real property which*  
108 *it enters into on behalf of the Medical Center and, pursuant to policies and procedures adopted by the*  
109 *Board of Visitors, may enter into such leases subject to the following conditions: (i) the lease must be a*  
110 *real property lease and not a capital lease within the meaning of the Capital Outlay Manual of the*  
111 *Department of General Services; (ii) the University's decision to enter into such a lease shall be based*  
112 *upon cost, demonstrated need, and compliance with guidelines adopted by the Board of Visitors which*  
113 *direct that competition be sought to the maximum practical degree, that all costs of occupancy be*  
114 *considered, and that the use of the space to be leased actually is necessary and is efficiently planned;*  
115 *(iii) the form of the lease is approved by the Special Assistant Attorney General representing the*  
116 *University; and (v) the lease otherwise meets all requirements of law and the leased property is certified*  
117 *for occupancy.*

118 *b. Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 2.1-511 and 23-4.1, but subject to policies and procedures*  
119 *adopted by the Board of Visitors, the University may lease, for a purpose consistent with the mission of*  
120 *the Medical Center and for a term not to exceed fifty years, property in the possession or control of the*  
121 *Medical Center.*

3. *Procurement of goods, services and construction.*

*Contracts awarded by the University in compliance with this section, on behalf of the Medical Center, for the procurement of goods, services, including professional services, and construction, shall be exempt from (i) the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 11-35 et seq.), except as provided below; (ii) Article 3 (§ 2.1-435 et seq.) of Chapter 32 of Title 2.1; and (iii) Article 5 (§ 21.-480 et seq.) of Chapter 32 of Title 2.1 regarding the review and approval of contracts for the construction of Medical Center capital projects; however, the provisions of this paragraph may not be implemented by the University until such time as the Board of Visitors has adopted guidelines generally applicable to the procurement of goods, services and construction by the Medical Center or by the University on behalf of the Medical Center. Such guidelines shall be based upon competitive principles and shall in each instance seek competition to the maximum practical degree. The guidelines shall implement a system of competitive negotiation for professional services; shall prohibit discrimination because of race, religion, color, sex, or national origin of the bidder or offeror in the solicitation or award of contracts; may take into account in all cases the dollar amount of the intended procurement, the term of the anticipated contract, and the likely extent of competition; may implement a prequalification procedure for contractors or products; may include provisions for cooperative procurement arrangements with private health or educational institutions, or with public agencies or institutions of the several states, territories of the United States or the District of Columbia; and may implement provisions of law. The following sections of the Virginia Public Procurement Act shall continue to apply to procurements by the Medical Center or by the University on behalf of the Medical Center: §§ 11-49, 11-51, 11-54, 11-56 through 11-61, and 11-72 through 11-80.*

§ 51.1-126. *Certain employees of institutions of higher education.*

A. Any institution of higher education which has established, or establishes, a retirement plan covering in whole or in part its employees who are engaged in the performance of teaching, administrative, or research duties is hereby authorized to make contributions for the benefit of its employees who elect to participate in such plan rather than in the retirement system established by this chapter. Any present or future employee of such institution may elect to participate in either the retirement system established by this chapter or the plan provided by the institution employing him, in accordance with guidelines established by the Virginia Retirement System. The election herein provided shall, as to any future employee, be exercised not later than ninety days from the time of entry upon the performance of his duties. *The University of Virginia is authorized on and after July 1, 1996, to transfer any University of Virginia Medical Center employee who is a participant in a retirement plan established pursuant to this section to any retirement plan established pursuant to § 51.1-126.2 as an alternative to any other retirement system established by this chapter, provided that the employee has elected to transfer to the plan established pursuant to § 51.1-126.2. On or after the effective date of any retirement plan established pursuant to § 51.1-126.2, all current or future employees of the University of Virginia Medical Center who are engaged in the performance of teaching, administrative or research duties shall be afforded the retirement plan election options provided by § 51.1-126.2 rather than the election options provided by this section.*

B. No employee of an institution of higher education who is an active member in a plan established under this section shall also be an active member of the retirement system or beneficiary other than a contingent annuitant.

C. 1. The contribution by the Commonwealth to such employee's retirement plan shall be 10.4 percent of creditable compensation. An institution of higher education may adopt a supplementation program for participants who, before January 1, 1991, exercise or have exercised the election to participate in the plan provided by the institution employing him as referred to in subsection A. Under such supplementation program, the institution may supplement such contribution using funds other than general funds, tuition or fees, up to an additional 2.17 percent of creditable compensation. *Any employee of the University of Virginia Medical Center who participated in a retirement plan established pursuant to this section prior to the effective date of such employee's transfer to a retirement plan established under § 51.1-126.2 shall continue to receive the contribution by the Commonwealth, and any supplementation thereof by the University, at the contribution and supplementation rates which were in effect on the effective date of such transfer.*

2. These contribution rates shall be examined by the Secretary of Administration prior to July 1, 1996, and at least once every six years thereafter. The Secretary shall consider the salary peer group mean contribution as determined by the State Council of Higher Education and the position of the Virginia Retirement System actuary, and, if necessary, recommend a revision to the rate of contribution by the Commonwealth.

D. The Virginia Retirement System shall develop policies and procedures, as approved by the Secretaries of Administration and Education, for the administration of all retirement plans established pursuant to this section. Such policies and procedures shall not, under any circumstances, result in the

elimination of any benefit program at any institution as such benefit program existed on June 30, 1991.

§ 51.1-126.1. Certain employees of teaching hospitals.

A. Any teaching hospital affiliated with an institution of higher education, *other than the University of Virginia Medical Center*, may establish a retirement plan covering in whole or in part its employees who are health care providers, as determined by the Department of Personnel and Training pursuant to § 2.1-116, and is authorized to make contributions for the benefit of its employees who elect to participate in such plan or arrangement rather than in the retirement system established by this chapter. Any such alternative retirement plan shall not become effective until July 1, 1991, or any time thereafter, as determined by such teaching hospital. Any health care provider employed by such teaching hospital on or after July 1, 1991, may make an irrevocable election to participate in either the retirement plan established by this chapter or the plan provided by the teaching hospital, in accordance with guidelines established by the Virginia Retirement System. The election herein provided shall, as to any health care provider employed after the alternative retirement plan implementation date, be exercised not later than thirty-one days from the time of entry upon the performance of his duties.

B. No health care provider employed by a teaching hospital who is an active member of a plan established under this section shall also be an active member of the retirement system or a beneficiary other than a contingent annuitant.

C. The contribution by the Commonwealth to any other retirement plan established on behalf of health care providers as provided in subsection A shall be the contribution by the Commonwealth which would be required if the health care provider were a member of the retirement system or eight percent of creditable compensation, whichever is less.

D. If the institution of higher education with which the teaching hospital is affiliated has adopted a retirement plan under § 51.1-126 for its employees who are engaged in the performance of teaching, administrative, or research duties, the plan established under this section shall offer the same investment opportunities as are available to the participants of the plan established under § 51.1-126.

E. The Virginia Retirement System shall develop policies and procedures, as approved by the Secretaries of Administration and Education, for the administration of the retirement plan established under this section.

§ 51.1-126.2. *Employees of the University of Virginia Medical Center.*

A. *The University of Virginia Medical Center, hereafter referred to as the Medical Center, may establish one or more retirement plans covering in whole or in part its employees, including employees who, prior to the effective date of any plan established pursuant to this section, had been participants in any plan established pursuant to § 51.1-126 or § 51.1-126.1. The Medical Center is authorized to make contributions for the benefit of its employees who elect to participate in any plan established pursuant to this section rather than in any other retirement plan established by this chapter. Any such alternative retirement plans for Medical Center employees shall not become effective until such time as the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia may determine. Any employee of the Medical Center may make an irrevocable election to participate in either any other retirement plan established by this chapter or any plan provided by the Medical Center in accordance with guidelines established by the University of Virginia Board of Visitors. The election herein provided shall, as to any Medical Center employee commencing employment following the effective date of any plan established pursuant to this section, be exercised not later than ninety days following the date the employee commences performing his duties.*

B. *No employee of the Medical Center who is an active member of any plan established under this section shall also be an active member of any other retirement plan under this chapter or a beneficiary of such other plan other than as a contingent annuitant.*

C. *The contribution by the Medical Center to any retirement plan established on behalf of employees of the Medical Center as provided in subsection A shall be eight percent of creditable compensation.*

D. *The guidelines adopted by the Board of Visitors under subsection A shall be filed with the Board Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System.*

**2. That any alternative retirement plan for health care provider employees of the University of Virginia Medical Center which was in effect prior to July 1, 1996, pursuant to § 51.1-126.1 of the Code of Virginia, shall remain in effect until the alternative retirement plan for such employees established pursuant to § 51.1-126.2 of the Code of Virginia is implemented.**