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HOUSE BILL NO. 2154

House Amendments in [ ] — February 2, 1997

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.1-399.1, 2.1-483.1, 11-35, and 62.1-132.6 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Port Authority; capital projects; exemption from Public Procurement Act.

Patrons—Heilig, Diamonstein, Drake, Forbes, Jones, J.C., Katzen, McDonnell, Parrish, Robinson, Sherwood, Tata, Wagner and Wardrup; Senators: Earley, Lucas, Martin, Potts, Quayle, Stolle, Waddell, Williams and Woods

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 2.1-399.1, 2.1-483.1, 11-35, and 62.1-132.6 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.1-399.1. Capital projects.

A. On or before December 20 of the year immediately prior to the beginning of each regular session held in an even-numbered year of the General Assembly, the Governor shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the General Assembly copies of any tentative bill or bills involving proposed capital appropriations for each year in the ensuing biennial appropriation period. Such bill or bills shall include each capital project to be financed through revenue bonds or other debt issuance, the amount of each such project, and identify the entity which will issue such debt. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Governor may recommend, and the General Assembly may make, an appropriation of special fund revenues derived from (i) the operations of the medical centers of Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Virginia that may be used, as directed by such universities, in connection with the ownership and operation of their medical centers and related health care and educational activities, including operating expenses and debt service; and (ii) [ the acquisition or improvement of specialized capital equipment associated with ] the operations of the terminals of the Virginia Port Authority that may be used as directed by the Virginia Port Authority in connection with the ownership and operation of their terminals and related activities, including operating expenses and debt service.

B. On or before December 20 of the year immediately prior to the beginning of each regular session held in an odd-numbered year of the General Assembly, the Governor shall submit to the presiding officer of each house printed copies of all gubernatorial amendments proposed to capital appropriations acts adopted in the immediately preceding even-numbered year session.

C. The Governor shall ensure that a summary of budget highlights be sent to a newspaper of general circulation in the following geographical areas of the Commonwealth: Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, Richmond/Petersburg, Central Virginia, Shenandoah Valley, Roanoke Valley, Southside, and Southwest Virginia prior to the convening of such session of the General Assembly.

D. The standing committees of the House of Delegates and of the Senate in charge of appropriation measures shall hold four regional public hearings on the budget bill submitted by the Governor. The four public hearings shall be held prior to the convening of such session of the General Assembly, at hearing sites and times as selected by the chairmen of the two committees.

§ 2.1-483.1. Administration of capital outlay construction.

The Department of General Services through its Division of Engineering and Buildings shall provide assistance in the administration of capital outlay construction projects set forth in the Appropriations Act, other than highway construction undertaken by the Department of Transportation and [ port construction the acquisition or improvement of specialized capital equipment ] undertaken by the Virginia Port Authority, to include the review and approval of plans and specifications, and acceptance of completed projects.

The Department of General Services may also establish standards, as needed, for construction by the Commonwealth and may, with the advice of the Attorney General, establish standard contract provisions and procedures for the procurement and administration of construction and for the procurement and administration of architectural and engineering services relating to construction, which shall be used by all departments, agencies and institutions of the Commonwealth. Such standards may provide for incentive contracting which offers a contractor whose bid is accepted the opportunity to share in any cost savings realized by the Commonwealth when project costs are reduced by such contractor, without affecting project quality, during construction of the project. The fee, if any, charged by the project engineer or architect for determining such cost savings shall be paid as a separate cost and shall not be calculated as part of any cost savings.

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60 The term "construction" as used in this section shall include new construction, reconstruction,  
61 renovation, restoration, major repair, demolition and all similar work upon buildings and ancillary  
62 facilities owned or to be acquired by the Commonwealth. It does not include buildings or other facilities  
63 ancillary to the use of state highways which are located within the right-of-way of any state highway, *or*  
64 [~~buildings or structures specialized capital equipment~~] *for use by the Virginia Port Authority within*  
65 *the boundaries of property owned or leased by the Virginia Port Authority.*

66 § 11-35. Title; purpose; applicability.

67 A. This chapter may be cited as the Virginia Public Procurement Act.

68 B. The purpose of this chapter is to enunciate the public policies pertaining to governmental  
69 procurement from nongovernmental sources, to include governmental procurement which may or may  
70 not result in monetary consideration for either party. This chapter shall apply whether the consideration  
71 is monetary or nonmonetary and regardless of whether the public body, the contractor, or some third  
72 party is providing the consideration.

73 C. The provisions of this chapter, however, shall not apply, except as stipulated in the provisions of  
74 §§ 11-41.1, 11-49, 11-51, 11-54, 11-56 through 11-61 and 11-72 through 11-80, to any town with a  
75 population of less than 3,500 as determined by the last official United States census.

76 D. Except to the extent adopted by such governing body, the provisions of this chapter also shall not  
77 apply, except as stipulated in subsection E, to any county, city or town whose governing body adopts by  
78 ordinance or resolution alternative policies and procedures which are based on competitive principles and  
79 which are generally applicable to procurement of goods and services by such governing body and the  
80 agencies thereof. This exemption shall be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures, or  
81 other policies and procedures meeting the requirements of this section, remain in effect in such county,  
82 city or town. Such policies and standards may provide for incentive contracting which offers a  
83 contractor whose bid is accepted the opportunity to share in any cost savings realized by the locality  
84 when project costs are reduced by such contractor, without affecting project quality, during construction  
85 of the project. The fee, if any, charged by the project engineer or architect for determining such cost  
86 savings shall be paid as a separate cost and shall not be calculated as part of any cost savings.

87 Except to the extent adopted by such school board, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply,  
88 except as stipulated in subsection E, to any school division whose school board adopts by policy or  
89 regulation alternative policies and procedures which are based on competitive principles and which are  
90 generally applicable to procurement of goods and services by such school board. This exemption shall  
91 be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures, or other policies or procedures meeting the  
92 requirements of this section, remain in effect in such school division. This provision shall not exempt  
93 any school division from any centralized purchasing ordinance duly adopted by a local governing body.

94 E. Notwithstanding the exemptions set forth in subsection D, the provisions of §§ 11-41 C, 11-41.1,  
95 11-46 B, 11-49, 11-51, 11-54, 11-56 through 11-61 and 11-72 through 11-80 shall apply to all counties,  
96 cities and school divisions, and to all towns having a population greater than 3,500 in the  
97 Commonwealth. The method for procurement of professional services set forth in subdivision 3 a of  
98 § 11-37 in the definition of competitive negotiation shall also apply to all counties, cities and school  
99 divisions, and to all towns having a population greater than 3,500, where the cost of the professional  
100 service is expected to exceed \$20,000.

101 F. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to those contracts entered into prior to January 1,  
102 1983, which shall continue to be governed by the laws in effect at the time those contracts were  
103 executed.

104 G. To the end that public bodies in the Commonwealth obtain high quality goods and services at  
105 reasonable cost, that all procurement procedures be conducted in a fair and impartial manner with  
106 avoidance of any impropriety or appearance of impropriety, that all qualified vendors have access to  
107 public business and that no offeror be arbitrarily or capriciously excluded, it is the intent of the General  
108 Assembly that competition be sought to the maximum feasible degree, that individual public bodies  
109 enjoy broad flexibility in fashioning details of such competition, that the rules governing contract awards  
110 be made clear in advance of the competition, that specifications reflect the procurement needs of the  
111 purchasing body rather than being drawn to favor a particular vendor, and that purchaser and vendor  
112 freely exchange information concerning what is sought to be procured and what is offered.

113 H. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, the selection of services by the Virginia  
114 Retirement System and the Board of the Virginia Higher Education Tuition Trust Fund related to the  
115 management, purchase or sale of authorized investments, including but not limited to actuarial services,  
116 shall be governed by the standards set forth in §§ 51.1-124.30 and 23-38.80, respectively, and shall not  
117 be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

118 I. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to procurement of any construction or planning and  
119 design services for construction by a Virginia not-for-profit corporation or organization not otherwise  
120 specifically exempted when the planning, design or construction is funded by state appropriations greater  
121 than \$10,000 unless the Virginia not-for-profit corporation or organization is obligated to conform to

122 procurement procedures which are established by federal statutes or regulations, whether or not those  
123 federal procedures are in conformance with the provisions of this chapter.

124 J. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to items purchased by public institutions of higher  
125 education for resale at retail bookstores and similar retail outlets operated by such institution. However,  
126 such purchase procedures shall provide for competition where practicable.

127 K. *The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to the Virginia Port Authority in the exercise of any*  
128 *of its powers in accordance with Chapter 10 (§ 62.1-128 et seq.) of Title 62.1 [ , provided the Authority*  
129 *implement, by policy or regulation adopted by the Board of Commissioners and approved by the*  
130 *Department of General Services, procedures to ensure fairness and competitiveness in the procurement*  
131 *of goods and services and in the administration of its capital outlay program. This exemption shall be*  
132 *applicable only so long as such policies and procedures meeting the requirements remain in effect ] .*

133 § 62.1-132.6. Powers not restrictive; exemption from Public Procurement Act.

134 The Authority shall have the power to perform any act or carry out any function not inconsistent  
135 with state law, whether included in the provisions of this chapter, which may be, or tend to be, useful in  
136 carrying out the provisions of this chapter. *The provisions of the Virginia Public Procurement Act*  
137 *(§ 11-35 et seq.) shall not apply to the Authority in the exercise of any of its powers in accordance with*  
138 *this chapter [ , provided the Authority implement, by policy or regulation adopted by the Board of*  
139 *Commissioners and approved by the Department of General Services, procedures to ensure fairness and*  
140 *competitiveness in the procurement of goods and services and in the administration of its capital outlay*  
141 *program. This exemption shall be applicable only so long as such policies and procedures meeting the*  
142 *requirements remain in effect ] .*

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