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## SENATE BILL NO. 714

## AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on General Laws

on January 22, 1997)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Marye)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.1-112 of the Code of Virginia, relating to preference for veterans for employment with the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.1-112 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.1-112. Grade or rating increase and other preferences for veterans.

A. In the event a person who has served in the armed forces of the United States in World War I, World War II, Korean War or Vietnam War, having an honorable discharge, is an applicant for a position in the state service which is filled after an examination given by the Merit System Council under the merit system plan applicable to personnel employed by the Virginia Employment Commission, the state and local boards of public welfare, the State Board of Health, and the Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped, or any other state agency whose employees are so examined, a manner consistent with federal and state law, if any veteran applies for employment with the Commonwealth which is based on the passing of any written examination, the veteran's grade or rating of the applicant on such examination shall be increased by five percent. If such applicant shall have *However, if the veteran has a service connected service-connected* disability rating fixed by the United States Veterans Administration, his grade or rating shall be increased by ten percent *on such written examination*. Such *additions increases* shall apply only be made if any such applicant *the veteran* passes such examination.

B. ~~In the event that~~ *In a manner consistent with federal and state law, if any person mentioned in subsection A* a veteran applies for employment with any agency of the Commonwealth where examinations are not required of the applicants which is not based on the passing of any examination, such person shall be assured that his veteran's military service with the armed forces shall be taken into consideration by the agency *Commonwealth* during the selection process, provided that such person veteran meets all of the knowledge, skill, and ability requirements for the *vacancy available position*. Each agency of the Commonwealth shall take affirmative action consistent with its obligations for protected classes.

C. If any veteran is denied employment with the Commonwealth, he shall be entitled, to the extent permitted by law, to request and inspect information regarding the reasons for such denial.

D. For purposes of this section, "veteran" means any person who has received an honorable discharge and has (i) provided more than 180 consecutive days of full-time, active-duty service in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or reserve components thereof, including the National Guard, or (ii) has a service-connected disability rating fixed by the United States Veterans Administration.

2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 1998.

3. That the Department of Veterans' Affairs, in conjunction with the Department of Personnel and Training, the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Municipal League, veterans' organizations, and any other interested person, is requested to study the effect of the provisions of this act on (i) the personnel system of the Commonwealth and (ii) the Commonwealth's political subdivisions if § 15.1-7.5 of the Code of Virginia were to be amended in a manner consistent with this act. The Department shall submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.