## **HOUSE BILL NO. 2683**

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice on February 7, 1999)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Puller)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 34-34 of the Code of Virginia, relating to homestead exemptions; retirement benefit exemptions, individual retirement accounts.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

## 1. That § 34-34 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 34-34. Certain retirement benefits exempt.

A. For the purposes of this section:

"Alternate payee" shall have the same meaning as provided under § 206 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). In the case of a retirement plan that is not subject to ERISA, the term "alternate payee" means an individual who has an interest in a retirement plan pursuant to a judgment, decree, or order, including approval of a property settlement agreement, that would be described in § 206 (d) (3) (B) of ERISA if the retirement plan were subject to ERISA.

"Annual benefit" means an amount payable as an annuity for the lifetime of the individual who claims the exemption provided under this section, assuming that annuity payments will commence upon the individual's attainment of age sixty-five or, if the individual attained age sixty-five on or before the exemption provided under this section is claimed, the individual's age on the date that the exemption is claimed.

"Retirement plan" means a plan, account, or arrangement that is intended to satisfy the requirements of United States Internal Revenue Code §§ 401, 403 (a), 403 (b), 408, 409 (as in effect prior to repeal by United States P.L. 98-369), or § 457. Whether a plan, account, or arrangement is intended to satisfy the requirements of one of the foregoing provisions shall be determined based on all of the relevant facts and circumstances including, but not limited to, the issuance of a favorable determination letter by the United States Internal Revenue Service, reports or returns filed with United States or state agencies, and communications from the plan sponsor to participants.

B. The interest of an individual under a retirement plan shall be exempt from creditor process to the extent provided under this section. The exemption provided by this section shall be available whether such individual has an interest in the retirement plan as a participant, beneficiary, contingent annuitant, alternate payee, or otherwise.

C. The exemption provided under subsection B shall not apply to the extent that the interest of the individual in the retirement plan would provide an annual benefit in excess of \$17,500. If an individual has an interest in more than one retirement plan, the limitation of this subsection C shall be applied as if all such retirement plans constituted a single plan. The amount required to provide an annual benefit of \$17,500 shall be determined under the following table:

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39 40	Attained Age	Cost of \$1
41	When Exemption	of Annual
42 43	Claimed	Benefit
44 45	16	0.1482
46 47	17	0.1603
48 49	18	0.1734
50 51	19	0.1875
52 53		
54	20	0.2028
55 56	21	0.2193
57	22	0.2371

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58 59	23	0.2564
60 61	24	0.2773
62 63	25	0.2998
64 65 66	26	0.3241
67 68	27	0.3505
69 70	28	0.3789
71 72	29	0.4096
73 74	30	0.4429
75 76	31	0.4789
77 78	32	0.5178
79 80	33	0.5598
81 82	34	0.6054
83 84	35	0.6546
85 86	36	0.7080
87 88	37	0.7658
89 90	38	0.8284
91 92	39	0.8963
93 94	40	0.9699
95 96	41	1.0497
97 98	42	1.1363
99 100	43	1.2304
101 102	44	1.3326
103 104	45	1.4436
105 106	46	1.5645
107 108	47	1.6960
109 110	48	1.8394
111 112	49	1.9958
113 114	50	2.1665

115	51	2.3530	
116 117	52	2.5571	
118 119	53	2.7808	
120			
121 122	54	3.0260	
123	55	3.2954	
124 125	56	3.5915	
126 127	57	3.9175	
128			
129 130	58	4.2771	出
131	59	4.6748	0
132 133	60	5.1150	Ğ
134 135	61	5.6035	
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137 138	62	6.1472	田
139	63	6.7538	
140 141	64	7.4330	$\Omega$
142 143	65	8.1958	ä
144			UB
145 146	66	7.9989	Ũ
<b>147</b>	67	7.8007	H
148 149	68	7.6009	H
150 151	60	7 2005	녈
152	69	7.3985	L.D.
153 154	70	7.1924	년
155	71	6.9830	Ħ
156 157	72	6.7706	
158 159	73		
160		6.5556	
161 162	74	6.3393	Н
163	75	6.1222	НВ2683Н1
164 165	76	5.9054	83H
166			
167 168	77	5.6897	
169 170	78	5.4763	
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171	79	5.2638
172 173	80	5.0529
174 175	81	4.8447
176 177	82	4.6403
178 179	83	4.4395
180 181	84	4.2415
182 183	85	4.0456
184 185	86	3.8522
186 187	87	3.6616
188 189	88	3.4742
190 191	89	3.2904
192 193	90	3.1106
194 195	91	2.9354
196 197	92	2.7653
198 199	93	2.6011
200 201	94	2.4415
202 203	95	2.2867
204 205		
206 207	96	2.1367
208	97	1.9935
209 210	98	1.8558
211 212	99	1.7214
213 214	100	1.5972
215 216	101	1.4755
217 218	102	1.3478
219 220	103	1.2690
221 222	104	1.1738
223 224	105	1.0679
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233	110	0.0000

For example, the amount required to provide an annual benefit of \$17,500 to an individual who attained age 60 at the time the exemption provided by this section is claimed is \$89,512.50 (\$17,500 times 5.1150).

- D. The exemption provided under subsection B shall not apply to amounts contributed to a retirement plan during the fiscal year of the retirement plan that includes the date on which the individual claims the exemption and for the two preceding fiscal years of the retirement plan other than amounts that were exempt from creditor process immediately prior to being contributed to the retirement plan. The exemption provided under subsection B shall not apply to the earnings on contributions described in this subsection.
- E. The exemption provided under subsection B shall not apply to claims made against an individual by the alternate payee of such individual or to claims made against such individual by the Commonwealth in administrative actions pursuant to Chapter 13 (§ 63.1-249 et seq.) of Title 63.1 or any court process to enforce a child or child and spousal support obligation.
- F. If two individuals who are married or were married are entitled to claim the exemption provided under subsection B of an interest under the same retirement plan or plans and such individuals are jointly subject to creditor process as to the same debt or obligation and the debt or obligation arose during the marriage, then the exemption provided under subsection B as to such debts or obligations shall not exceed, in the aggregate, the amount that would provide an annual benefit of \$17,500. The maximum amount that may be exempted shall be allocated among such persons in the same proportion as their respective interests in the retirement plan or plans.
- G. The exemption provided under this section must be claimed within the time limits prescribed by § 34-17.
- H. A retirement plan established pursuant to § 408 and § 408 A of the Internal Revenue Code is exempt to the same extent as that permitted for a qualified plan established pursuant to § 401 of the Internal Revenue Code.