

# 2006 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## SENATE BILL NO. 487

Offered January 11, 2006

Prefiled January 11, 2006

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-302.1, relating to duties of Virginia Liaison Office; support for enactment of association health plan legislation.*

Patron—Wagner

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

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

#### 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-302.1 as follows:

§ 2.2-302.1. *Support for enactment of association health plan legislation.*

A. *In addition to its responsibilities enumerated in § 2.2-302, the Office shall work with the members of the State Congressional Delegation and federal executive branch agencies to develop, support, and enact federal legislation, in the same or similar form as the Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2005, that provides for the establishment and governance of group health plans sponsored by trade, industry, professional, chamber of commerce, or similar business associations, which are referred to as association health plans, and provides that such association health plans that meet certain certification requirements under the federal Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, are preempted, with certain exceptions, from state regulation of health insurers.*

B. *The Office shall submit an annual report to the Governor and the chairs of Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor and the House Committee on Commerce and Labor, no later than January 1 of each year, that summarizes the status of such federal legislation and activities by the Office in furtherance of this section.*

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