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HOUSE BILL NO. 626

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 8, 2008

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-4501 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Investment of Public Funds Act; legal investment of certain funds; volunteer fire and rescue squad pension programs.

 Patron—May

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 2.2-4501 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-4501. Legal investments for other public funds.

A. The Commonwealth, all public officers, municipal corporations, other political subdivisions and all other public bodies of the Commonwealth may invest any and all moneys belonging to them or within their control, other than sinking funds, in the following:

1. Stocks, bonds, notes, and other evidences of indebtedness of the Commonwealth and those unconditionally guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the Commonwealth.

2. Bonds, notes and other obligations of the United States, and securities unconditionally guaranteed as to the payment of principal and interest by the United States, or any agency thereof. The evidences of indebtedness enumerated by this subdivision may be held directly, or in the form of repurchase agreements collateralized by such debt securities, or in the form of securities of any open-end or closed-end management type investment company or investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, provided that the portfolio of such investment company or investment trust is limited to such evidences of indebtedness, or repurchase agreements collateralized by such debt securities, or securities of other such investment companies or investment trusts whose portfolios are so restricted.

3. Stocks, bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness of any state of the United States upon which there is no default and upon which there has been no default for more than ninety days; provided, that within the twenty fiscal years next preceding the making of such investment, such state has not been in default for more than ninety days in the payment of any part of principal or interest of any debt authorized by the legislature of such state to be contracted.

4. Stocks, bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness of any county, city, town, district, authority or other public body in the Commonwealth upon which there is no default; provided, that if the principal and interest be payable from revenues or tolls and the project has not been completed, or if completed, has not established an operating record of net earnings available for payment of principal and interest equal to estimated requirements for that purpose according to the terms of the issue, the standards of judgment and care required in Article 2 (§ 26-45.3 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of Title 26, without reference to this section, shall apply.

In any case in which an authority, having an established record of net earnings available for payment of principal and interest equal to estimated requirements for that purpose according to the terms of the issue, issues additional evidences of indebtedness for the purposes of acquiring or constructing additional facilities of the same general character that it is then operating, such additional evidences of indebtedness shall be governed by the provisions of this section without limitation.

5. Legally authorized stocks, bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness of any city, county, town or district situated in any one of the states of the United States upon which there is no default and upon which there has been no default for more than ninety days; provided, that (i) within the twenty fiscal years next preceding the making of such investment, such city, county, town or district has not been in default for more than ninety days in the payment of any part of principal or interest of any stock, bond, note or other evidence of indebtedness issued by it; (ii) such city, county, town or district shall have been in continuous existence for at least twenty years; (iii) such city, county, town or district has a population, as shown by the federal census next preceding the making of such investment, of not less than 25,000 inhabitants; (iv) the stocks, bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness in which such investment is made are the direct legal obligations of the city, county, town or district issuing the same; (v) the city, county, town or district has power to levy taxes on the taxable real property therein for the payment of such obligations without limitation of rate or amount; and (vi) the net indebtedness of such city, county, town or district (including the issue in which such investment is made), after deducting the amount of its bonds issued for self-sustaining public utilities, does not exceed ten percent of the value of the taxable property in such city, county, town or district, to be ascertained by the

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HB626

59 valuation of such property therein for the assessment of taxes next preceding the making of such
60 investment.

61 6. Bonds and other obligations issued, guaranteed or assumed by the International Bank for
62 Reconstruction and Development, by the Asian Development Bank or by the African Development
63 Bank.

64 B. This section shall not apply to funds authorized by law to be invested by the Virginia Retirement
65 System or to deferred compensation plan funds to be invested pursuant to § 51.1-601 *or to funds*
66 *contributed by a locality to a pension program for the benefit of any volunteer fire department and*
67 *rescue squad established pursuant to § 15.2-955.*

68 C. Investments made prior to July 1, 1991, pursuant to § 51.1-601 are ratified and deemed valid to
69 the extent that such investments were made in conformity with the standards set forth in Chapter 6
70 (§ 51.1-600 et seq.) of Title 51.1.

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