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HOUSE BILL NO. 641

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 8, 2008

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-2905 and 23-231.27 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center.*

 Patron—Hogan

 Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 2.2-2905 and 23-231.27 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 2.2-2905. Certain officers and employees exempt from chapter.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to:

1. Officers and employees for whom the Constitution specifically directs the manner of selection;
2. Officers and employees of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals;
3. Officers appointed by the Governor, whether confirmation by the General Assembly or by either house thereof is required or not;
4. Officers elected by popular vote or by the General Assembly or either house thereof;
5. Members of boards and commissions however selected;
6. Judges, referees, receivers, arbiters, masters and commissioners in chancery, commissioners of accounts, and any other persons appointed by any court to exercise judicial functions, and jurors and notaries public;
7. Officers and employees of the General Assembly and persons employed to conduct temporary or special inquiries, investigations, or examinations on its behalf;
8. The presidents, *executive directors*, and teaching and research staffs of state educational institutions;
9. Commissioned officers and enlisted personnel of the National Guard and the naval militia;
10. Student employees in institutions of learning, and patient or inmate help in other state institutions;
11. Upon general or special authorization of the Governor, laborers, temporary employees and employees compensated on an hourly or daily basis;
12. County, city, town and district officers, deputies, assistants and employees;
13. The employees of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission;
14. The officers and employees of the Virginia Retirement System;
15. Employees whose positions are identified by the State Council of Higher Education and the boards of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, The Science Museum of Virginia, the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia, the Virginia Museum of Natural History, *the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, The New College Institute*, and The Library of Virginia, and approved by the Director of the Department of Human Resource Management as requiring specialized and professional training;
16. Employees of the State Lottery Department;
17. Production workers for the Virginia Industries for the Blind Sheltered Workshop programs;
18. Employees of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority;
19. Employees of the University of Virginia Medical Center. Any changes in compensation plans for such employees shall be subject to the review and approval of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia. The University of Virginia shall ensure that its procedures for hiring University of Virginia Medical Center personnel are based on merit and fitness. Such employees shall remain subject to the provisions of the State Grievance Procedure (§ 2.2-3000 et seq.);
20. In executive branch agencies the employee who has accepted serving in the capacity of chief deputy, or equivalent, and the employee who has accepted serving in the capacity of a confidential assistant for policy or administration. An employee serving in either one of these two positions shall be deemed to serve on an employment-at-will basis. An agency may not exceed two employees who serve in this exempt capacity;
21. Employees of Virginia Correctional Enterprises. Such employees shall remain subject to the provisions of the State Grievance Procedure (§ 2.2-3000 et seq.);
22. Officers and employees of the Virginia Port Authority;
23. Employees of the Virginia College Savings Plan;
24. Directors of state facilities operated by the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and

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59 Substance Abuse Services employed or reemployed by the Commissioner after July 1, 1999, under a
60 contract pursuant to § 37.2-707. Such employees shall remain subject to the provisions of the State
61 Grievance Procedure (§ 2.2-3000 et seq.);

62 25. The Director of the Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy;

63 26. Employees of the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation. Such employees shall be treated as
64 state employees for purposes of participation in the Virginia Retirement System, health insurance, and
65 all other employee benefits offered by the Commonwealth to its classified employees; and

66 27. Employees of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission.

67 § 23-231.27. Executive director; powers and duties; staff.

68 A. The Board shall appoint an executive director for the Center who shall supervise and manage the
69 Center and shall prepare and submit, upon direction and approval by the Board, all requests for
70 appropriations. The Executive Director of the Center shall be authorized to employ such staff as
71 necessary to enable the Center to perform its duties as set forth in this chapter. The Board is authorized
72 to determine the duties of such staff and to fix salaries and compensation from such funds as may be
73 appropriated or received.

74 B. *The Executive Director shall provide oversight of the Board and shall employ such staff and*
75 *faculty as may be necessary to effectuate the mission and duties of the Center as set forth in this*
76 *chapter. The Executive Director shall, with the approval of the Board, determine the duties of such staff*
77 *and faculty and fix their salaries or compensation within the amounts appropriated therefor. All such*
78 *positions shall be exempt from the Virginia Personnel Act (§ 2.2-2900 et seq.).*

79 Additional staff support for the functions of the Center may be provided upon agreement by
80 Longwood University, Danville Community College, and Southside Virginia Community College.