

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2011 SESSION

## CHAPTER 551

*An Act to amend and reenact § 66-25.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to juvenile work programs.*

[S 954]

Approved March 25, 2011

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

**1. That § 66-25.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 66-25.1. Work programs.

A. Any agreement with a public or private entity for the operation of a work program for juveniles committed to the Department shall be submitted for review to a committee appointed by the Governor for that purpose. The committee shall include representatives from an employee association or organization, the business community, a chamber of commerce, an industry association, *a business that employs, has employed or has expressed interest in employing juvenile offenders, a local workforce investment board, the Department of Correctional Education, the Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade, and the Office of the Secretary of Education, the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety, the Virginia Community College System, and the Virginia Workforce Council.*

B. The primary purpose of such work program shall be the training of such juveniles, not the production of goods or the rendering of service by juveniles committed to the Department. Such work programs also shall not interfere with or impact a juvenile's education program where the goal is achieving a high school diploma or its equivalent. The Board shall promulgate regulations governing the form and review process for proposed agreements.

C. Articles produced or manufactured and services provided by juveniles participating in such a work program may be purchased by any county, district of any county, city or town and by any nonprofit organization, including volunteer lifesaving or first aid crews, rescue squads, fire departments, sheltered workshops and community service organizations. Such articles and services may also be bought, sold or acquired by exchange on the open market through the participating public or private entity.

D. Revenues received from the sale of articles, as provided in subsection C, shall be deposited into a special fund established in the state treasury. Such funds shall be expended to support work programs for juveniles committed to the Department.

**2. That the committee described in subsection A of § 66-25.1 of the Code of Virginia shall develop and submit to the Department of Juvenile Justice a plan to establish a network of businesses willing to employ juveniles released from the Department's commitment.**

**3. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2012.**