

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2012 SESSION

## CHAPTER 682

*An Act to amend and reenact § 23-281 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Commonwealth Health Research Board; staffing.*

[S 53]

Approved April 9, 2012

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

**1. That § 23-281 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 23-281. Powers of the Board.

In order to carry out its purpose, the Board shall have the power to:

1. Make grants or other expenditures or disbursements from the Fund to provide support for research efforts approved by the Board in accordance with the purposes of this chapter; however, the Board shall not be obligated to make annual or other periodic disbursements or expenditures;

2. Contract for the services of consultants to review research proposals and to assist in the evaluation of the research efforts funded by the Board;

3. Contract for other professional services to assist the Board in the performance of its duties and responsibilities;

4. Accept, hold, administer, and solicit gifts, grants, bequests, contributions or other assistance from federal agencies, the Commonwealth, or any other public or private source to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

5. Enter into any agreement or contract relating to the acceptance or use of any grant, assistance or support provided by or to the Board, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter;

6. Perform any lawful acts necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the Board; and

7. Employ such staff as is necessary to perform the Board's duties. The Board may determine the duties of such staff and fix the salaries and compensation of such staff, which shall be paid from the Fund. *Such staff shall be employees of the Department of Accounts and shall be entitled to all benefits available to state employees as provided by law.*

**2. That the Commonwealth Health Research Board shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Accounts concerning staff support to the Board hired pursuant to subdivision 7 of § 23-281 of the Code of Virginia. Nothing in this act shall be construed to limit the Board's authority to hire such staff as it deems necessary, nor shall this act be interpreted to alter the source of funding of the salaries and compensation of such staff from the Commonwealth Health Research Fund.**