

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 2.2-2001.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Values*
3 *Veterans Program; certification by state agencies and institutions of higher education.*

4 [H 1641]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 2.2-2001.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 2.2-2001.2. Programs to reduce unemployment among veterans.**

9 A. The Department shall develop a comprehensive program to reduce unemployment among veterans
10 by assisting businesses to attract, hire, train, and retain veterans. Such program shall promote strategies
11 for connecting employers to qualified veterans and include (i) a workforce assessment and training
12 program for participating employers and (ii) a certification process for participating employers with the
13 objective of setting measurable goals for hiring and retaining veterans.

14 B. All agencies in the executive branch of state government and all public institutions of higher
15 education shall, to the maximum extent possible, be certified in accordance with this section. Such
16 agencies and institutions may request a certification waiver from the Governor if they can demonstrate
17 that (i) the certification is in conflict with the organization's operating directives or (ii) they have in
18 place an alternative program that meets the requirements of this section.

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