# **2018 SESSION**

**ENROLLED** 

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## VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact § 2.2-4806 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Debt 3 Collection Act; public institutions of higher education.

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### Approved

### Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 6

#### 7 1. That § 2.2-4806 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: 8

# § 2.2-4806. Utilization of certain collection techniques.

9 A. Each state agency and institution shall take all appropriate and cost-effective actions to 10 aggressively collect its accounts receivable. Each agency and institution shall utilize, but not be limited to, the following collection techniques, according to the policies and procedures required by the 11 12 Department of Accounts and the Division: (i) credit reporting bureaus, (ii) collection agencies, (iii) garnishments, liens and judgments, (iv) administrative offset, and (v) participation in the Treasury Offset 13 14 Program of the United States under 31 U.S.C. § 3716.

15 B. Except as provided otherwise herein, for collection of accounts receivable of \$3,000 or more that 16 are 60 days past due, each agency and institution shall forward those claims to the Division for 17 collection. The Division shall review forwarded accounts, determine the appropriate collection efforts, if 18 any, for each account, and take such actions on the accounts as the Division may so determine.

- 19 C. Except as provided otherwise herein, for collection of accounts receivable under \$3,000 that are 20 60 days past due, each agency and institution shall contract with a private collection agency for the collection of those debts. Prior to referring accounts receivable of less than \$3,000, agencies and 21 22 institutions may refer such accounts to the Division. The Division may accept the account for collection 23 or return it to the agency or institution for collection by a private collection agency.
- 24 D. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, where a debtor is paying a debt in periodic 25 payments to an agency or institution, the agency or institution may elect to retain the claim in excess of 26 60 days provided that such periodic payments are promptly paid until the account is satisfied. In the 27 event the debtor is delinquent (i) by 60 days in paying a periodic payment or (ii) for such other period 28 of time approved by the Division, the account shall be handled in the manner provided by subsections B 29 and C of this section.

30 E. A public institution of higher education shall provide a debtor who is currently enrolled in such 31 institution the option to pay his debt in periodic payments over the course of the term or semester in 32 which the account became past due or, at the discretion of such institution, over a longer period, 33 provided that such periodic payments are promptly paid until the account is satisfied. In the event that 34 the debtor is delinquent (i) by 60 days in paying a periodic payment or (ii) for such other period of 35 time approved by the Division, the account shall be handled in the manner provided by subsections B 36 and C.

37 F. Each state agency and institution shall report and pay required fees to the Division as required by subsection C of § 2.2-518. 38

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