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SENATE BILL NO. 1211

Offered January 9, 2019

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A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 58.1-301 and 58.1-322.03 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia income tax; conformity; standard deduction; emergency.

Patron—Chafin

Referred to Committee on Finance

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 58.1-301 and 58.1-322.03 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows: § 58.1-301. Conformity to Internal Revenue Code.

A. Any term used in this chapter shall have the same meaning as when used in a comparable context in the laws of the United States relating to federal income taxes, unless a different meaning is clearly required.

B. Any reference in this chapter to the laws of the United States relating to federal income taxes shall mean the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and amendments thereto, and other provisions of the laws of the United States relating to federal income taxes, as they existed on February 9 December 31, 2018, except for:

1. The special depreciation allowance for certain property provided for under §§ 168(k), 168(l), 168(m), 1400L, and 1400N of the Internal Revenue Code;

2. The carry-back of certain net operating losses for five years under § 172(b)(1)(H) of the Internal Revenue Code;

3. The original issue discount on applicable high yield discount obligations under § 163(e)(5)(F) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

4. The deferral of certain income under § 108(i) of the Internal Revenue Code. For Virginia income tax purposes, income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with the reacquisition of an "applicable debt instrument" (as defined under § 108(i) of the Internal Revenue Code) reacquired in the taxable year shall be fully included in the taxpayer's Virginia taxable income for the taxable year, unless the taxpayer elects to include such income in the taxpayer's Virginia taxable income ratably over a three-taxable-year period beginning with taxable year 2009 for transactions completed in taxable year 2009, or over a three-taxable-year period beginning with taxable year 2010 for transactions completed in taxable year 2010 on or before April 21, 2010. For purposes of such election, all other provisions of § 108(i) of the Internal Revenue Code shall apply mutatis mutandis. No other deferral shall be allowed for income from the discharge of indebtedness in connection with the reacquisition of an "applicable debt instrument.";

5. The amount of the deduction allowed for domestic production activities pursuant to § 199 of the Internal Revenue Code for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2010. For Virginia income tax purposes, two-thirds of the amount deducted pursuant to § 199 of the Internal Revenue Code for federal income tax purposes during the taxable year may be deducted for Virginia income tax purposes for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2010. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2013, the entire amount of the deduction allowed for domestic production activities pursuant to § 199 of the Internal Revenue Code may be deducted for Virginia income tax purposes;

6. The provisions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the Act) enacted December 22, 2017, as Public Law 115-97, provided, however, that this exception shall not apply to the following:

a. Treatment of certain individuals performing services in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt pursuant to § 11026 of the Act;

b. Relief for 2016 disaster areas pursuant to § 11028 of the Act;

c. Any other provision of the Act that affects the computation of federal adjusted gross income of individuals or federal taxable income of corporations for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016, and before January 1, 2018, other than the temporary reduction in the medical expense deduction floor pursuant to § 11027 of the Act; and

7. The provisions of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 enacted February 9, 2018, as Public Law 115-123, that affect any taxable year other than a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2016, and before January 1, 2018.

The Department of Taxation is hereby authorized to develop procedures or guidelines for implementation of the provisions of this section, which procedures or guidelines shall be exempt from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

59 § 58.1-322.03. Virginia taxable income; deductions.

60 In computing Virginia taxable income pursuant to § 58.1-322, there shall be deducted from Virginia
61 adjusted gross income as defined in § 58.1-321:

62 1. a. The amount allowable for itemized deductions for federal income tax purposes where the
63 taxpayer has elected for the taxable year to itemize deductions on his federal return, but reduced by the
64 amount of income taxes imposed by the Commonwealth or any other taxing jurisdiction and deducted
65 on such federal return and increased by an amount that, when added to the amount deducted under
66 § 170 of the Internal Revenue Code for mileage, results in a mileage deduction at the state level for
67 such purposes at a rate of 18 cents per mile; or

68 b. ~~Three thousand dollars for single individuals and \$6,000 for married persons (one-half of such~~
69 ~~amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return); provided~~ *Provided* that the taxpayer
70 has not itemized deductions for the taxable year on his federal income tax return: *(i) for taxable years*
71 *beginning before January 1, 2018, \$3,000 for single individuals and \$6,000 for married persons*
72 *(one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return); (ii) for taxable*
73 *years beginning on and after January 1, 2018, but before January 1, 2019, \$6,000 for single individuals*
74 *and \$12,000 for married persons (one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a*
75 *separate return); and (iii) for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2019, an amount equal*
76 *to the deductions set forth in clause (ii), adjusted each year by the percentage, if any, by which the*
77 *Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U), as published by the U.S.*
78 *Department of Labor or any successor index, for the most recent calendar year differs from the*
79 *C-CPI-U published at the close of the 12-month period ending on December 31, 2018. For purposes of*
80 *this section, any person who may be claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's return for the taxable*
81 *year may compute the deduction only with respect to earned income.*

82 2. a. A deduction in the amount of \$930 for each personal exemption allowable to the taxpayer for
83 federal income tax purposes.

84 b. Each blind or aged taxpayer as defined under § 63(f) of the Internal Revenue Code shall be
85 entitled to an additional personal exemption in the amount of \$800.

86 The additional deduction for blind or aged taxpayers allowed under this subdivision shall be
87 allowable regardless of whether the taxpayer itemizes deductions for the taxable year for federal income
88 tax purposes.

89 3. A deduction equal to the amount of employment-related expenses upon which the federal credit is
90 based under § 21 of the Internal Revenue Code for expenses for household and dependent care services
91 necessary for gainful employment.

92 4. An additional \$1,000 deduction for each child residing for the entire taxable year in a home under
93 permanent foster care placement as defined in § 63.2-908, provided that the taxpayer can also claim the
94 child as a personal exemption under § 151 of the Internal Revenue Code.

95 5. a. A deduction in the amount of \$12,000 for individuals born on or before January 1, 1939.

96 b. A deduction in the amount of \$12,000 for individuals born after January 1, 1939, who have
97 attained the age of 65. This deduction shall be reduced by \$1 for every \$1 that the taxpayer's adjusted
98 federal adjusted gross income exceeds \$50,000 for single taxpayers or \$75,000 for married taxpayers.
99 For married taxpayers filing separately, the deduction shall be reduced by \$1 for every \$1 that the total
100 combined adjusted federal adjusted gross income of both spouses exceeds \$75,000.

101 For the purposes of this subdivision, "adjusted federal adjusted gross income" means federal adjusted
102 gross income minus any benefits received under Title II of the Social Security Act and other benefits
103 subject to federal income taxation solely pursuant to § 86 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

104 6. The amount an individual pays as a fee for an initial screening to become a possible bone marrow
105 donor, if (i) the individual is not reimbursed for such fee or (ii) the individual has not claimed a
106 deduction for the payment of such fee on his federal income tax return.

107 7. a. A deduction shall be allowed to the purchaser or contributor for the amount paid or contributed
108 during the taxable year for a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account entered into with
109 the Virginia College Savings Plan, pursuant to Chapter 7 (§ 23.1-700 et seq.) of Title 23.1. Except as
110 provided in subdivision b, the amount deducted on any individual income tax return in any taxable year
111 shall be limited to \$4,000 per prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account. No deduction
112 shall be allowed pursuant to this subdivision 7 if such payments or contributions are deducted on the
113 purchaser's or contributor's federal income tax return. If the purchase price or annual contribution to a
114 college savings trust account exceeds \$4,000, the remainder may be carried forward and subtracted in
115 future taxable years until the purchase price or college savings trust contribution has been fully
116 deducted; however, except as provided in subdivision b, in no event shall the amount deducted in any
117 taxable year exceed \$4,000 per contract or college savings trust account. Notwithstanding the statute of
118 limitations on assessments contained in § 58.1-312, any deduction taken hereunder shall be subject to
119 recapture in the taxable year or years in which distributions or refunds are made for any reason other
120 than (i) to pay qualified higher education expenses, as defined in § 529 of the Internal Revenue Code or

121 (ii) the beneficiary's death, disability, or receipt of a scholarship. For the purposes of this subdivision,
122 "purchaser" or "contributor" means the person shown as such on the records of the Virginia College
123 Savings Plan as of December 31 of the taxable year. In the case of a transfer of ownership of a prepaid
124 tuition contract or college savings trust account, the transferee shall succeed to the transferor's tax
125 attributes associated with a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account, including, but not
126 limited to, carryover and recapture of deductions.

127 b. A purchaser of a prepaid tuition contract or contributor to a college savings trust account who has
128 attained age 70 shall not be subject to the limitation that the amount of the deduction not exceed \$4,000
129 per prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account in any taxable year. Such taxpayer shall be
130 allowed a deduction for the full amount paid for the contract or contributed to a college savings trust
131 account, less any amounts previously deducted.

132 8. The total amount an individual actually contributed in funds to the Virginia Public School
133 Construction Grants Program and Fund, established in Chapter 11.1 (§ 22.1-175.1 et seq.) of Title 22.1,
134 provided that the individual has not claimed a deduction for such amount on his federal income tax
135 return.

136 9. An amount equal to 20 percent of the tuition costs incurred by an individual employed as a
137 primary or secondary school teacher licensed pursuant to Chapter 15 (§ 22.1-289.1 et seq.) of Title 22.1
138 to attend continuing teacher education courses that are required as a condition of employment; however,
139 the deduction provided by this subdivision shall be available only if (i) the individual is not reimbursed
140 for such tuition costs and (ii) the individual has not claimed a deduction for the payment of such tuition
141 costs on his federal income tax return.

142 10. The amount an individual pays annually in premiums for long-term health care insurance,
143 provided that the individual has not claimed a deduction for federal income tax purposes, or, for taxable
144 years beginning before January 1, 2014, a credit under § 58.1-339.11. For taxable years beginning on
145 and after January 1, 2014, no such deduction for long-term health care insurance premiums paid by the
146 individual during the taxable year shall be allowed if the individual has claimed a federal income tax
147 deduction for such taxable year for long-term health care insurance premiums paid by him.

148 11. Contract payments to a producer of quota tobacco or a tobacco quota holder, or their spouses, as
149 provided under the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-357), but only to the extent that such
150 payments have not been subtracted pursuant to subsection D of § 58.1-402, as follows:

151 a. If the payment is received in installment payments, then the recognized gain may be subtracted in
152 the taxable year immediately following the year in which the installment payment is received.

153 b. If the payment is received in a single payment, then 10 percent of the recognized gain may be
154 subtracted in the taxable year immediately following the year in which the single payment is received.
155 The taxpayer may then deduct an equal amount in each of the nine succeeding taxable years.

156 12. An amount equal to 20 percent of the sum paid by an individual pursuant to Chapter 6
157 (§ 58.1-600 et seq.), not to exceed \$500 in each taxable year, in purchasing for his own use the
158 following items of tangible personal property: (i) any clothes washers, room air conditioners,
159 dishwashers, and standard size refrigerators that meet or exceed the applicable energy star efficiency
160 requirements developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of
161 Energy; (ii) any fuel cell that (a) generates electricity using an electrochemical process, (b) has an
162 electricity-only generation efficiency greater than 35 percent, and (c) has a generating capacity of at least
163 two kilowatts; (iii) any gas heat pump that has a coefficient of performance of at least 1.25 for heating
164 and at least 0.70 for cooling; (iv) any electric heat pump hot water heater that yields an energy factor of
165 at least 1.7; (v) any electric heat pump that has a heating system performance factor of at least 8.0 and
166 a cooling seasonal energy efficiency ratio of at least 13.0; (vi) any central air conditioner that has a
167 cooling seasonal energy efficiency ratio of at least 13.5; (vii) any advanced gas or oil water heater that
168 has an energy factor of at least 0.65; (viii) any advanced oil-fired boiler with a minimum annual
169 fuel-utilization rating of 85; (ix) any advanced oil-fired furnace with a minimum annual fuel-utilization
170 rating of 85; and (x) programmable thermostats.

171 13. The lesser of \$5,000 or the amount actually paid by a living donor of an organ or other living
172 tissue for unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses directly related to the donation that arose within 12
173 months of such donation, provided that the donor has not taken a medical deduction in accordance with
174 the provisions of § 213 of the Internal Revenue Code for such expenses. The deduction may be taken in
175 the taxable year in which the donation is made or the taxable year in which the 12-month period
176 expires.

177 14. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2013, the amount an individual age 66 or
178 older with earned income of at least \$20,000 for the year and federal adjusted gross income not in
179 excess of \$30,000 for the year pays annually in premiums for (i) a prepaid funeral insurance policy
180 covering the individual or (ii) medical or dental insurance for any person for whom individual tax filers
181 may claim a deduction for such premiums under federal income tax laws. As used in this subdivision,

182 "earned income" means the same as that term is defined in § 32(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. The
183 deduction shall not be allowed for any portion of such premiums paid for which the individual has (a)
184 been reimbursed, (b) claimed a deduction for federal income tax purposes, (c) claimed a deduction or
185 subtraction under another provision of this section, or (d) claimed a federal income tax credit or any
186 income tax credit pursuant to this chapter.

187 **2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.**

188 **3. That the provisions of this act amending § 58.1-301 shall be effective only for taxable years**
189 **beginning on and after January 1, 2018.**