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HOUSE BILL NO. 5074

FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by Delegate Miyares

on September 2, 2020)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Delegates Sullivan, Miyares [HB 5037], O'Quinn [HB 5040], Ransone [HB 5110], and Runion [HB 5019])

2 3 4 5 6 7 A BILL to provide immunity from civil claims related to the transmission of or exposure to the 8 COVID-19 virus and use of personal protective equipment; emergency.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 10 **1.** § 1. A. For the purposes of this act, unless the context requires otherwise:
- "Person" includes (i) individuals, corporations, nonprofit corporations, business trusts, estates, trusts, 11 partnerships, limited liability companies, sole proprietorships, associations, and joint ventures; (ii) the 12 Commonwealth or any locality, or any agent thereof, or any person acting on behalf of the 13 Commonwealth or any locality; and (iii) any other legal or commercial entity. 14
- 15 "Personal protective equipment" means equipment worn to minimize exposure to the COVID-19 virus 16 and includes gloves, medical masks, N-95 respirators, eye protection, gowns, aprons, boots or closed-toe 17 work shoes, cleaning detergents, hand sanitizers, and cleaning products.
- 18 B. In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no person shall be liable for any civil cause of action arising from any act or omission alleged to have resulted in the contraction of or 19 20 exposure to the COVID-19 virus, provided such person has complied with applicable federal, state, and 21 local policies, procedures, and guidance regarding COVID-19.
- 22 C. In the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct, no person who designs, manufactures, 23 labels, or distributes any personal protective equipment in response to the COVID-19 virus shall be 24 liable for any civil cause of action arising out of the use of such equipment.
- 25 D. The provisions of this act shall not limit or abrogate any other defenses or immunities available 26 at law.
- 27 E. The provisions of this act shall not apply to claims before the Virginia Workers' Compensation 28 Commission seeking benefits payable under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act (§ 65.2-100 et sea. 29 of the Code of Virginia).
- 2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage. 30
- 3. That the provisions of this act shall expire two years after the expiration or revocation of all 31 32 states of emergency declared by the Governor related to the COVID-19 pandemic.