2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

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VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend and reenact § 8.01-232 of the Code of Virginia, relating to effect of promises not to 3 plead statute of limitations.

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Approved

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 6

7 1. That § 8.01-232 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: 8

§ 8.01-232. Effect of promises not to plead statute of limitations.

9 A. Whenever the failure to enforce a promise, written or unwritten, not to plead the statute of 10 limitations would operate as a fraud on the promisee, the promisor shall be estopped to plead the statute. In all other cases, an unwritten promise not to plead the statute shall be void, and a written promise not 11 12 to plead such statute shall be valid and enforceable to prevent assertion of the defense of the statute 13 only when (i) it the written promise is made to avoid or defer litigation pending settlement of any case cause of action that has accrued in favor of the promisee against the promisor, (ii) it is not made 14 15 contemporaneously with any other contract the written promise is signed by the promisor or his agent, and (iii) it is made for an additional term not longer than the promisee commences an action asserting 16 such cause of action within the earlier of (a) the applicable limitations period running from the date the 17 18 written promise is made or (b) any shorter time as may be provided in the written promise. No 19 provision of this subsection shall operate contrary to subsections B and C.

20 B. No acknowledgment or promise by any personal representative of a decedent shall charge the 21 estate of the decedent, revive a cause of action otherwise barred, or relieve the personal representative of his duty to defend under § 64.2-1415 in any case in which but for such acknowledgment or promise, the 22 23 decedent's estate could have been protected under a statute of limitations.

24 C. No acknowledgment or promise by one of two or more joint contractors shall charge any of such 25 contractors in any case in which but for such acknowledgment another contractor would have been 26 protected under a statute of limitations.

27 D. Subsections A and C shall not apply to, limit, or prohibit written promises to waive or not to 28 plead the statute of limitations that are made in, or contemporaneously with, subcontracts of any tier that 29 are related to contracts for construction, construction management, design-build, architecture, or 30 engineering under Chapter 43 (§ 2.2-4300 et seq.) or 43.1 (§ 2.2-4378 et seq.) of Title 2.2; under the 31 policies and procedures adopted by any county, city, or town or school board; under Title 23.1; or under 32 authorizing provisions, policies, or procedures for procurement of such contracts by any public body 33 exempted from the foregoing; however, such waiver or promise not to plead applies only to demands, 34 claims, or actions asserted under such contracts by a public body. As used in this subsection, 35 "subcontract" includes any contract or purchase order to supply labor, equipment, materials, or services to an entity awarded a contract with a public body or to any lower-tier entity performing work provided 36 37 for in such a contract.

2. That the provisions of this act shall apply to any written promise not to plead the statute of 38 39 limitations made on or after July 1, 2022.

[H 409]