

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs and the Secretary of Commerce and*  
3 *Trade, in conjunction with the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, to examine the*  
4 *waiving of fees associated with permits necessary to establish a small business for veteran-owned*  
5 *small businesses.*

6 [S 572]

7 Approved

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

9 1. § 1. *The Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs and the Secretary of Commerce and Trade (the*  
10 *Secretaries), in conjunction with the Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity, shall examine*  
11 *the waiving of fees associated with permits necessary to establish a small business for veteran-owned*  
12 *small businesses. The Secretaries shall identify the necessary permits and determine the total costs of*  
13 *associated fees for a start-up by type of business and by regulatory agency and shall determine the*  
14 *feasibility of waiving any such fees for veteran-owned small businesses. In conducting their examination,*  
15 *the Secretaries may also identify and make recommendations regarding removing other regulatory*  
16 *barriers for veteran-owned small businesses. The Secretaries shall report their findings and*  
17 *recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committees on Appropriations and Labor and Commerce*  
18 *and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and Commerce and Labor by December 1,*  
19 *2022.*

20 *For the purposes of this act:*

21 *"Permit" means the whole or part of any state agency permit, license, certificate, approval,*  
22 *registration, charter, or any form or permission required by law to engage in activity associated with or*  
23 *involving the establishment of a small business in the Commonwealth.*

24 *"Regulatory" means all permitting and other governmental or statutory requirements establishing a*  
25 *small business or professional activities associated with establishing a small business.*

26 *"Regulatory agency" means any state agency, board, commission, or division that regulates one or*  
27 *more professions, occupations, industries, businesses, or activities.*

28 *"Small business" means an independently owned and operated business that, together with affiliates,*  
29 *has 250 or fewer employees or average annual gross receipts of \$10 million or less averaged over the*  
30 *previous three years.*

31 *"Veteran" means an individual who has served in the active military, naval, or air service and who*  
32 *was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.*