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Protecting America's Heartbeat for Almost 100 Years!

## Virginia Federation of NARFE (VFN)

Over 12,000 Members Strong

Note: Strain Str

8 Area Vice Presidents



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National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)



# Virginia Federation of NARFE

# 2021

# State Legislative Plan

Protecting Earned Benefits of Active & Retired Federal Employees and the Interests of Virginia's Senior Citizens



## <u>HB 1766</u>

#### **Disabled Veteran's "passport":**

Allows free entry into state parks and 50% discount on other fees charges by the Department of Conservation and Recreation to all veterans with a service-connected disability. Currently a veteran must be 100% disabled to be eligible for this program. Discounted fees include camping and swimming fees, picnic shelter rentals and other equipment rentals provided by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

#### <u>HB 1848</u>

#### VA Human Rights Act: Disability Discrimination:

Carves out specific protections for Virginians with disabilities and applies to businesses with six or more employees. Protection for all other classes under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the VA Human Rights Act apply to businesses with 15 or more employees. Reasonable accommodation is required unless undue hardship can be demonstrated by the business.

## <u>HB 1788</u>

#### Rolling Conformity with IRS Code:

Requires the VA tax code to automatically incorporate changes to the IRS tax code. However, the VA tax code will not be required to conform when the VA budget impact is more than 0.25% on the general fund in the fiscal year or any of the following four fiscal years after the change was enacted.

## <u>HB 1805</u>

#### Social Need in Aging Services:

Provides that older persons with significant noneconomic factors in need of services be prioritized when aging services are provided. In effect, an elder Virginian with defined noneconomic barriers would receive services ahead of a healthy, able bodied elder Virginian. A number of barriers to appropriate services are listed



#### **Asthma Inhaler Cost Limitation**

Prohibits health insurance companies from charging more than \$50 per prescription asthma inhaler that a covered person is required to pay. Long on the VFN Legislative agenda, these two bills, from different angles address:

## **Nursing Home Standards**

## <u>SB 1149</u>

This bill requires minimum staffing for daytime, evening and nighttime periods. It requires: Daytime: 1 Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)/15 patients and 1 Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)/8patients; Evening: 1 RN or LPN and 1 CNA/12 patients; Night: 1 RN or LPN/30 patients and 1 CNA/15 patients.

## <u>HB 2156</u>

This bill requires an increase in the minimum number of direct care services to nursing home patients from 3.5 hours in a 24-hour period in 2022 to 4.1 in 2030. The phase in would begin after a year long study by the Commission on Health Care completes a study to define "direct care services."

For more information on these issues or to schedule a meeting, please contact:

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