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**SENATE BILL NO. 782**

Offered January 8, 2025

Prefiled December 27, 2024

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 58.1-322.03 and 58.1-339.8 of the Code of Virginia, relating to income tax; deductions and earned income tax credit; sunset.*

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 Patron—Suetterlein

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 Referred to Committee on Finance and Appropriations

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That §§ 58.1-322.03 and 58.1-339.8 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 58.1-322.03. Virginia taxable income; deductions.**

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

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

b. Provided that the taxpayer has not itemized deductions for the taxable year on his federal income tax return: (i) for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2019, ~~and on and after January 1, 2026~~, \$3,000 for single individuals and \$6,000 for married persons (one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return); (ii) for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2019, but before January 1, 2022, \$4,500 for single individuals and \$9,000 for married persons (one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return); (iii) for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2022, but before January 1, 2024, \$8,000 for single individuals and \$16,000 for married persons (one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return); and (iv) for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2024, ~~but before January 1, 2026~~, \$8,500 for single individuals and \$17,000 for married persons (one-half of such amounts in the case of a married individual filing a separate return). For purposes of this section, any person who may be claimed as a dependent on another taxpayer's return for the taxable year may compute the deduction only with respect to earned income.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. a. A deduction shall be allowed to the purchaser or contributor for the amount paid or contributed during the taxable year for a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account entered into with the

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Commonwealth Savers Plan, pursuant to Chapter 7 (§ 23.1-700 et seq.) of Title 23.1. Except as provided in subdivision b, the amount deducted on any individual income tax return in any taxable year shall be limited to \$4,000 per prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account. No deduction shall be allowed pursuant to this subdivision 7 if such payments or contributions are deducted on the purchaser's or contributor's federal income tax return. If the purchase price or annual contribution to a college savings trust account exceeds \$4,000, the remainder may be carried forward and subtracted in future taxable years until the purchase price or college savings trust contribution has been fully deducted; however, except as provided in subdivision b, in no event shall the amount deducted in any taxable year exceed \$4,000 per contract or college savings trust account. Notwithstanding the statute of limitations on assessments contained in § 58.1-312, any deduction taken hereunder shall be subject to recapture in the taxable year or years in which distributions or refunds are made for any reason other than (i) to pay qualified higher education expenses, as defined in § 529 of the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) the beneficiary's death, disability, or receipt of a scholarship. For the purposes of this subdivision, "purchaser" or "contributor" means the person shown as such on the records of the Commonwealth Savers Plan as of December 31 of the taxable year. In the case of a transfer of ownership of a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account, the transferee shall succeed to the transferor's tax attributes associated with a prepaid tuition contract or college savings trust account, including, but not limited to, carryover and recapture of deductions.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13. The lesser of \$5,000 or the amount actually paid by a living donor of an organ or other living tissue for unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses directly related to the donation that arose within 12 months of such

donation, provided that the donor has not taken a medical deduction in accordance with the provisions of § 213 of the Internal Revenue Code for such expenses. The deduction may be taken in the taxable year in which the donation is made or the taxable year in which the 12-month period expires.

14. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2013, the amount an individual age 66 or older with earned income of at least \$20,000 for the year and federal adjusted gross income not in excess of \$30,000 for the year pays annually in premiums for (i) a prepaid funeral insurance policy covering the individual or (ii) medical or dental insurance for any person for whom individual tax filers may claim a deduction for such premiums under federal income tax laws. As used in this subdivision, "earned income" means the same as that term is defined in § 32(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. The deduction shall not be allowed for any portion of such premiums paid for which the individual has (a) been reimbursed, (b) claimed a deduction for federal income tax purposes, (c) claimed a deduction or subtraction under another provision of this section, or (d) claimed a federal income tax credit or any income tax credit pursuant to this chapter.

15. Business interest disallowed as a deduction pursuant to § 163(j) of the Internal Revenue Code:

a. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2018, but before January 1, 2022, 20 percent of such disallowed business interest;

b. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2022, but before January 1, 2024, 30 percent of such disallowed business interest;

c. For taxable years beginning on and after January 2, 2024, 50 percent of such disallowed business interest.

For purposes of subdivision 15, "business interest" means the same as that term is defined under § 163(j) of the Internal Revenue Code.

16. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2019, the actual amount of real and personal property taxes imposed by the Commonwealth or any other taxing jurisdiction not otherwise deducted solely on account of the dollar limitation imposed on individual deductions by § 164(b)(6)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code.

17. For taxable years beginning before January 1, 2021, up to \$100,000 of the amount that is not deductible when computing federal adjusted gross income solely on account of the portion of subdivision B 10 of § 58.1-301 related to Paycheck Protection Program loans.

18. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2022, but before January 1, 2025, the lesser of \$500 or the actual amount paid or incurred for eligible educator qualifying expenses. For purposes of this subdivision, "eligible educator" means an individual who for at least 900 hours during the taxable year in which the credit under this section is claimed served as a teacher licensed pursuant to Chapter 15 (§ 22.1-289.1 et seq.) of Title 22.1, instructor, student counselor, principal, special needs personnel, or student aide serving accredited public or private primary and secondary school students in Virginia, and "qualifying expenses" means 100 percent of the amount paid or incurred by an eligible educator during the taxable year for participation in professional development courses and the purchase of books, supplies, computer equipment (including related software and services), other educational and teaching equipment, and supplementary materials used directly in that individual's service to students as an eligible educator, provided that such purchases were neither reimbursed nor claimed as a deduction on the eligible educator's federal income tax return for such taxable year.

#### **§ 58.1-339.8. Income tax credit for low-income taxpayers.**

A. ~~As used in~~ For purposes of this section, ~~unless the context requires otherwise:~~

"Family Virginia adjusted gross income" means the combined Virginia adjusted gross income of an individual, the individual's spouse, and any person claimed as a dependent on the individual's or his spouse's income tax return for the taxable year.

"Household" means an individual, or in the case of married ~~persons~~ *individuals*, an individual and his spouse, regardless of whether or not the individual and his spouse file combined or separate Virginia individual income tax returns.

"Poverty guidelines" means the poverty guidelines for the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia updated annually in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of § 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981.

"Virginia adjusted gross income" has the same meaning as the term is defined in § 58.1-321.

B. 1. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2000, any individual or ~~persons filing a joint return~~ *married individuals filing jointly* whose family Virginia adjusted gross income does not exceed 100 percent of the poverty guideline amount corresponding to a household of an equal number of persons as listed in the poverty guidelines published during such taxable year, shall be allowed a nonrefundable credit against the tax levied pursuant to § 58.1-320 in an amount equal to \$300 each for the individual, the individual's spouse, and any person claimed as a dependent on the individual's or married individuals' income tax return for the taxable year. For any taxable year in which married individuals file separate Virginia income tax returns, the credit provided under this section shall be allowed against the tax for only one of such two tax returns. Additionally, the credit provided under this section shall not be allowed against such tax of a

181 dependent of the individual or of married individuals.

182 2. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2006, any individual or married individuals *filing*  
183 *jointly*, eligible for a tax credit pursuant to § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code, may for the taxable year, in  
184 lieu of the credit authorized under subdivision 1, claim a nonrefundable credit against the tax imposed  
185 pursuant to § 58.1-320 in an amount equal to 20 percent of the credit claimed by the individual or married  
186 individuals for federal individual income taxes pursuant to § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code for the taxable  
187 year. In no case shall a household be allowed a credit pursuant to this subdivision and subdivision 1 or 3 for  
188 the same taxable year.

189 3. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2022, ~~but before January 1, 2026~~, any individual or  
190 married ~~persons~~ *individuals filing jointly*, eligible for a tax credit pursuant to § 32 of the Internal Revenue  
191 Code, may for the taxable year, in lieu of the credit authorized under subdivision 1 or 2, claim a refundable  
192 credit against the tax imposed pursuant to § 58.1-320 in an amount equal to 15 percent of the credit claimed  
193 by the individual or married ~~persons~~ *individuals filing jointly* for federal individual income taxes pursuant to  
194 § 32 of the Internal Revenue Code for the taxable year. The refundable credit shall be claimed on the Virginia  
195 income tax return and redeemed by the Tax Commissioner. In no case shall a household be allowed a credit  
196 pursuant to this subdivision and subdivision 1 or 2 for the same taxable year.

197 C. The amount of the credit claimed pursuant to subdivision B 1 and B 2, or in the case of a nonresident or  
198 a person to which § 58.1-303 applies, subdivision B 3, for any taxable year shall not exceed the individual's  
199 or married individuals' Virginia income tax liability.

200 D. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, no credit shall be allowed pursuant to subsection B  
201 in any taxable year in which the individual, the individual's spouse, or both, or any person claimed as a  
202 dependent on such individual's or married individuals' income tax return, claims one or any combination of  
203 the following on his or their income tax return for such taxable year:

204 1. The subtraction under subdivision 8 of § 58.1-322.02;

205 2. The subtraction under subdivision 15 of § 58.1-322.02;

206 3. The subtraction under subdivision 16 of § 58.1-322.02;

207 4. The deduction for the additional personal exemption for blind or aged taxpayers under subdivision 2 b  
208 of § 58.1-322.03; or

209 5. The deduction under subdivision 5 of § 58.1-322.03.