

VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Management & Accountability of the VEDP, 2016

State economic development board ► Amend the Code of Virginia to establish a Board of Economic Development, whose purpose is to provide ongoing and systematic planning, advice, and direction for the state’s economic development system to improve coordination of activities and its efficiency and effectiveness. Membership of the Board of Economic Development should include a representative from each of the secretariats responsible for agencies with economic development programs, at least one member of the House of Delegates, at least one member of the Senate, one director of a local economic development organization, and one director of a regional economic development organization. The Board of Economic Development should be a policy board, as defined in § 2.2-2100, and have full-time, independent staff for the purposes of executing its responsibilities. (Recommendation 28)

State economic development board ► Include language in the Appropriation Act to fund a full-time, independent staff for the purposes of supporting the Board of Economic Development in fulfilling its responsibilities. The Department of Planning and Budget should assist in determining the number of staff necessary to provide this support. (Recommendation 29)

State economic development board ► Include language in the Appropriation Act to direct state agencies to collaborate with the Board of Economic Development to develop and define standard categories of economic development program activities to use when tracking economic development program expenditures and reporting these expenditures to the Board of Economic Development. The General Assembly may wish to consider amending the Code of Virginia to require state agencies and encourage regional and local entities to adopt these categories. (Recommendation 30)

State economic development board ► Amend the Code of Virginia to establish a State, Regional, and Local Advisory Team tasked with advising the Board of Economic Development on opportunities to improve the coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of the state’s economic development system. The State, Regional, and Local Advisory Team should provide advice to the Board of Economic Development on how to adapt economic development strategies to reflect changes in Virginia’s regions and industries. The Advisory Team should be appointed by the Board of Economic Development and include the directors of state agencies engaged in economic development (minimum of 6), directors of regional economic development organizations (minimum of 4), directors of local economic development organizations (minimum of 4), and representatives of the business community (minimum of 4). One regional and one local director should also be appointed to the Board of Economic Development. (Recommendation 31)