

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

SARA REDDING WILSON DIRECTOR

Department of Human Resource Management James Monroe Building, 12th Floor

101 N. 14™ STREET AMES MONROE BUILDING, 12™ FLOOR RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219 (804) 225-2131 (TTY) 711

October 30, 2017

The Honorable Frank M. Ruff, Jr., Chairman Senate General Laws and Technology Committee

The Honorable C. Todd Gilbert, Chairman House General Laws Committee

Subject:

State Employee Grievance Hearings Report

Pursuant to Chapter 694, 2016 Virginia Acts of Assembly

Dear Chairmen and Members of the Committees:

Pursuant to enactment clause three of Chapter 694 of the 2016 Virginia Acts of Assembly, the Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM) is required to provide a report each year to the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology and the House Committee on General Laws detailing:

(i) the number of employee grievance hearings held pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia) and (ii) the number of decisions from such hearings that were rendered in favor of employees.

Grievance hearings conducted under the state employee grievance procedure are not subject to the Administrative Process Act. Va. Code § 2.2-4002(B); Op. Att'y Gen. 31 (Sept. 4, 1997). Accordingly, there were no grievance hearings held under the Administrative Process Act subject to the language above.

Most state employee grievances are resolved prior to being addressed at a hearing. Although there are tens of thousands of positions potentially with access to the grievance procedure across the Commonwealth, DHRM reports that there were 140 state employee grievance hearing decisions issued in Fiscal Year 2017. In those hearings, a decision was rendered in favor of the employee, in the form of partial or full relief, in 46 cases (33%).

Respectfully submitted,

Sara R. Wilson

Sara R. Wilson

Director