

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 3.1-73.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to farmers markets.*

3 [H 1038]

4 Approved

5 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**6 **1. That § 3.1-73.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

7 § 3.1-73.5. Commissioner to manage farmers market operations.

8 A. In order to establish, operate and maintain a network of farmers markets within the
9 Commonwealth, the Commissioner or his designee shall have the authority to carry out the provisions of
10 this article, including the power to:11 1. Employ such personnel as necessary to operate the system of markets in accordance with the
12 Virginia Personnel Act (§ 2.1-110 et seq.);

13 2. Receive and dispense funds;

14 3. Develop and manage a program budget for the farmers market network;

15 4. Provide marketing and promotional services for the farmers market network;

16 5. Develop detailed technical plans for, acquire or build, and manage the farmers market network;

17 6. Conduct such studies as are necessary to ensure the success of the farmers market network;

18 7. Acquire necessary insurance, licenses, and permits for the operation of the market network;

19 8. Make contracts and agreements and execute other instruments necessary for the operation of the
20 farmers market network;21 9. Enter into agreements with and accept grants from any governmental agency in furtherance of this
22 article;23 10. Enter into joint ventures with cities, towns, counties or combinations thereof in developing
24 wholesale, shipping point, and retail farmers markets; and25 11. Rent or purchase land and facilities as deemed necessary to establish markets or to enhance
26 farmers market development.27 *B. If a market in the network is operated pursuant to a contract between the Commissioner and the*
28 *market operator, such contract shall require that the operator annually submit to the Commissioner and*
29 *the Board a plan for, and a report on, the operation of the market. The plan shall describe the*
30 *operator's goals for the coming year as to the acreage to be served by the market, the types of crops to*
31 *be sold at the market, and the number of brokers, buyers and producers to utilize the market. The report*
32 *shall describe the extent to which the goals for the previous year were met. The Commissioner shall*
33 *annually submit a report summarizing the market operators' reports and plans to the Chairmen of the*
34 *House Committee on Agriculture, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural*
35 *Resources, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance.*

ENROLLED

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