

# 2000 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 470

Offered January 18, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-301 of the Code of Virginia, relating to adoption of optional form of county government.

Patron—Hull

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

### Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

#### 1. That § 15.2-301 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-301. Petition or resolution asking for referendum; notice; conduct of election.

A. A county may adopt one of the optional forms of government provided for in Chapters 4 through 8 of this title only after approval by voter referendum. The referendum shall be initiated by (i) a petition filed with the circuit court for the county signed by at least ten percent of the voters of the county, asking that a referendum be held on the question of adopting one of the forms of government or (ii) a resolution passed by the board of supervisors and filed with the circuit court asking for a referendum. The petition or resolution shall specify which of the forms of government provided for in Chapters 4 through 8 is to be placed on the ballot for consideration. Only one form may be placed on the ballot for consideration.

B. Notice of the election shall be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the county once a week for three consecutive weeks and shall be posted at the door of the county courthouse.

C. The election shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of § 24.2-684. *In addition to the certifications required by such section, the secretary of the appropriate electoral board shall certify the results to the Commission on Local Government.*

D. Prior to adopting an optional form of government provided for in Chapter 5 or Chapter 6, a county shall also comply with the referendum requirements of § 24.2-686.

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