

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 29.1-109 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the powers of the Director*
3 *of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.*

4 [H 537]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 29.1-109 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 29.1-109. Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; Director.

9 A. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries shall exist to provide public, informational and
10 educational services related to this title, and to serve as the agency responsible for the administration
11 and enforcement of all rules and regulations of the Board, the statutory provisions of this title, and
12 related legislative acts. The Department shall employ scientific principles and procedures, as developed,
13 researched, recognized and accepted within the bounds of comprehensive professional wildlife resource
14 management, in the management of the Commonwealth's wildlife and natural resources.

15 B. The Board shall appoint a Director to head the Department and to act as principal administrative
16 officer. In addition to the powers designated elsewhere in this title, the Director shall have the power to:

17 1. Enforce or cause to be enforced all laws for the protection, propagation and preservation of game
18 birds and game animals of the Commonwealth and all fish in the inland waters thereof. Inland waters
19 shall include all waters above tidewater and the brackish and freshwater streams, creeks, bays, including
20 Back Bay, inlets, and ponds in the tidewater counties and cities.

21 2. Initiate prosecution of all persons who violate such laws, and seize and confiscate wild birds, wild
22 animals and fish that have been illegally killed, caught, transported or shipped.

23 3. Employ persons necessary for the administrative requirements of the Board and to designate the
24 official position and duties of each. The salaries of all such employees shall be as provided in
25 accordance with law.

26 4. Perform such acts as may be necessary to the conduct and establishment of cooperative fish and
27 wildlife projects with the federal government as prescribed by acts of Congress and in compliance with
28 rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior.

29 5. Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of his
30 duties and the execution of his powers, including, but not limited to, contracts with the United States,
31 other state agencies and governmental subdivisions of the Commonwealth.

32 6. *When practicable, consult with, and keep informed, wildlife and boating constituent organizations*
33 *so as to benefit Virginia's wildlife and natural resources and accomplish the Department's mission.*

ENROLLED

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