

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 22.1 a chapter numbered 20.1, consisting of sections numbered 22.1-354.1 through 22.1-354.5, relating to the Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula Public Education Consortium.

[H 927]

Approved

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 22.1 a chapter numbered 20.1, consisting of sections numbered 22.1-354.1 through 22.1-354.5, as follows:

CHAPTER 20.1.

NORTHERN NECK-MIDDLE PENINSULA PUBLIC EDUCATION CONSORTIUM.

§ 22.1-354.1. Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula Public Education Consortium created; region defined; governing board.

A. The Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula Public Education Consortium is hereby established and shall be referred to in this chapter as the Consortium. For the purposes of this chapter and the work of the Consortium, "Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula" shall include the Counties of Essex, Gloucester, King and Queen, Lancaster, Mathews, Middlesex, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland. The governing board of the Consortium shall consist of the school superintendents of the named localities, the president or his designee of Rappahannock Community College, the Director of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, and seven citizen members representing business, industry, and community interests in the region, four of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and three of whom shall be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections. The region's legislators shall serve as nonvoting, advisory members of the board. The board may appoint additional nonvoting, advisory members to assist in the performance of its duties.

B. No board members shall receive compensation or reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The board shall elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among its members and may provide such rules as it considers appropriate concerning its membership, quorum, and establishment of committees.

§ 22.1-354.2. Functions and duties.

The Consortium shall perform the following functions and duties:

1. Coordinate with those educational institutions and agencies in the Commonwealth and surrounding areas to develop joint educational initiatives;

2. Promote and establish, in conjunction with the Department of Education and the region's public school divisions, regional programs to address area educational needs;

3. Coordinate the development and sharing of programs, educational techniques, and resources among and between the region's school divisions and institutions of higher education to enhance the educational opportunities for students and teachers in the Northern Neck-Middle Peninsula region; and

4. Provide technical assistance to school divisions throughout the Commonwealth for the implementation of effective educational programs.

§ 22.1-354.3. Executive director; staff support.

From such funds as may be appropriated or received, the board of the Consortium may appoint an executive director, who shall be authorized to employ such staff as necessary to enable the Consortium to perform its duties as set forth in this chapter. The board is authorized to determine the duties of such staff and to fix salaries and compensation from such funds as may be appropriated or received.

§ 22.1-354.4. Application for and acceptance of gifts and grants.

The Consortium is authorized to apply for, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from public or private sources to enable it to carry out its objectives.

§ 22.1-354.5. Cooperation of other agencies.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the Consortium and, upon request, assist the Consortium in the performance of its duties and responsibilities.

2. That the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating the purposes of this act is included in the 2000 Appropriation Act, passed during the 2000 Session of the General Assembly, and signed into law by the Governor.

ENROLLED

HB927ER