

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 17.1-207 of the Code of Virginia, relating to days of operation of*  
3 *clerks' offices.*

4 [S 249]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 17.1-207 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 17.1-207. Days of operation of clerks' offices.

9 A. The clerk's office of every court shall be kept open on every day except Saturday, *except as*  
10 *provided in subsection B*, and Sunday, and the days provided for in § 2.1-21, for the transaction of  
11 business; provided that:12 1. The clerk's office of the circuit court of any county or city may be closed on any day which is  
13 established as a general holiday for the employees of such county or city by a resolution duly adopted  
14 by the governing body of such county or city and approved by the judge or judges of the circuit court  
15 and filed in the office of the clerk; provided that such general holiday shall have the same force and  
16 effect as a legal holiday as set forth in § 1-13.3:1;17 2. The judge or judges of any circuit court in any county or city may authorize the clerk of such  
18 court to close the clerk's office on Christmas Eve; provided that the closing of any clerk's office as  
19 provided by this subdivision shall have the same force and effect as a legal holiday as set forth in  
20 § 1-13.3:1;21 3. The chief judge or presiding judge of any circuit court may authorize the clerk of the court to  
22 close the clerk's office on any day when the chief judge or presiding judge determines that operation of  
23 the clerk's office, under prevailing conditions, would constitute a threat to the health and safety of the  
24 clerk's office personnel or the general public. Closing of the clerk's office pursuant to this subdivision  
25 shall have the same effect as provided in § 1-13.3:1;26 4. The judge or judges of the circuit court of any county or city may authorize the clerk of such  
27 court to close the clerk's office on any day or portion of a day which the Governor declares as a holiday  
28 for state employees, or on any day or portion of a day on which the Governor authorizes state offices to  
29 be closed; provided that such closing of any clerk's office shall have the same force and effect as a legal  
30 holiday as set forth in § 1-13.3:1.31 Except for closings pursuant to subdivision 3, whenever the authorization of the judge is necessary to  
32 close a clerk's office and a court has more than one judge, the authorization of all such judges shall be  
33 necessary.34 The judge of the circuit court of any county or city may require the clerk's office to be kept open  
35 continuously for the transaction of business during convenient hours on all the days on which it is  
36 required by this section to be kept open.37 *B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the clerk, with the approval of the chief*  
38 *judge, to open the clerk's office on Saturdays, during such hours as the chief judge may authorize,*  
39 *solely for the purposes of (i) permitting examination and copying of court records and (ii) accepting*  
40 *applications for and granting licenses pursuant to applicable law. For all other purposes, including*  
41 *without limitation the recordation of instruments and the filing of actions at law and suits in equity and*  
42 *all pleadings, pleas and motions therein, such clerk's office shall be closed with the force and effect of a*  
43 *statutory closing as provided in § 1-13.3:1.*

ENROLLED

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