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HOUSE BILL NO. 1667

Offered January 10, 2001 Prefiled December 11, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-705.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to absentee voting in certain business and medical emergency situations.

Patron-Sherwood

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 24.2-705.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 24.2-705.1. Late applications and in-person absentee voting for business and medical emergencies. Any person registered and otherwise qualified to vote who becomes obligated after 12:00 noon on the Saturday before an election to be absent from his county or city on election day for a purpose pertaining to (i) his business, profession, or occupation, or (ii) the hospitalization of the applicant or a member of his immediate family, may apply for an absentee ballot and vote absentee in person pursuant

to this section and subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant applies in person for an absentee ballot on the Monday immediately preceding the

election, before noon, at the principal office of the registrar; and

2. The applicant signs a statement, which shall be deemed part of his absentee ballot application and subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, that he is required to leave the county or city before the opening of the polls on election day for a purpose pertaining to (i) his business, profession or occupation, or (ii) the hospitalization of the applicant or a member of his immediate family, and that he did not have notice or knowledge of such required travel prior to 12:00 noon on the immediately preceding Saturday. "Immediate family" means the children, grandchildren, grandparents, parents, siblings and spouse of the applicant.