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1   **SENATE BILL NO. 1217**

2   AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3   (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections

4   on January 30, 2001)

5   (Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Whipple)

6   *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 24.2-703.1, relating to special*

7   *annual absentee ballot applications for permanently ill or disabled voters.*

8   **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

9   **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 24.2-703.1, as follows:**

10   *§ 24.2-703.1. Special annual applications for absentee ballots for certain ill or disabled voters.*

11   *Any person who is unable to vote at the polls because of a permanent illness or physical disability*

12   *shall be eligible to file a special annual application to receive ballots for all elections in which he is*

13   *eligible to vote in a calendar year. His first such application shall be accompanied by a statement, on a*

14   *form prescribed by the State Board and signed by the voter and his physician or accredited religious*

15   *practitioner, that the voter is unable to vote at the polls because of a permanent illness or physical*

16   *disability.*

17   *In accordance with procedures established by the State Board, the general registrar shall retain the*

18   *application and form, enroll the applicant on a special absentee voter applicant list, and process the*

19   *applicant's request for an absentee ballot for each succeeding election in the calendar year. The*

20   *applicant shall specify by party designation the primary ballots he is requesting.*

21   *The general registrar shall send each such enrolled applicant a blank application by December 15*

22   *for each ensuing calendar year, and upon completion thereof, the applicant shall be eligible to receive*

23   *ballots for all elections in which he is eligible to vote in that calendar year.*

24   *If an official reply to the application or an absentee ballot sent to the applicant is returned as*

25   *undeliverable, no ballot for any subsequent election shall be sent to the voter until a new application is*

26   *filed and accepted.*