

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2002 SESSION

CHAPTER 344

An Act to amend and reenact § 53.1-231.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to processes for notification regarding restoration of civil rights.

[H 1298]

Approved April 1, 2002

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 53.1-231.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 53.1-231.1. Process for notification regarding restoration of civil rights.

The Director of the Department of Corrections shall provide that any person convicted of a felony is notified of the loss of his civil rights and of the processes to apply for restoration of civil rights *and of voting rights*. The notice shall be given at the time the person has completed service of his sentence, period of probation or parole, or suspension of sentence.

The Director shall assist the Secretary of the Commonwealth in the administration of the process established by the Governor for the review of applications for restoration of civil rights.

To promote the efficient processing of applications to the Governor, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall maintain a record of the applications for restoration of rights received, the dates such applications are received, and the dates they are either granted or denied by the Governor. The Secretary shall notify each applicant who has filed a complete application that the complete application has been received and the date the complete application was forwarded by the Secretary to the Governor. Such complete application shall be forwarded by the Secretary to the Governor within ninety days after receipt of the application.

2. That the Director of the Department of Corrections shall ensure that the requirements for notification contained in § 53.1-231.1 of the Code of Virginia are performed and shall compile information on the Department's compliance with these requirements on an annual basis by July 1 of each year.

3. That the Supreme Court of Virginia shall ensure that there are standardized petitions for the restoration of voting rights pursuant to § 53.1-231.2 of the Code of Virginia available at all circuit court clerks' offices.