HOUSE BILL NO. 1335

Offered January 18, 2002

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-2240 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership; Founders of America Communities Program.

Patron—Orrock

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.2-2240 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.2-2240. Nonstock corporation to assist economic development; Founders of America Communities Program.

The Board may establish nonprofit, nonstock corporations under Chapter 10 (§ 13.1-801 et seq.) of Title 13.1 as public instrumentalities exercising public and essential governmental functions, to assist the Board and the Authority in (i) promoting Virginia's economic development and tourism promotion efforts in the national and international corporate community; (ii) raising money in the corporate and nonprofit community to pay for advertising and promotion of the Commonwealth; (iii) raising nonstate dollars to complement state and local economic development activities; or (iv) conducting or undertaking other activities useful in carrying out the provisions of this article.

The board of directors of any such corporation shall be composed of the Executive Director of the Authority and eight members appointed by the Board of the Authority. However, any such corporation established to promote the tourism industry in the Commonwealth shall be composed of the Executive Director of the Authority, six members appointed by the Board of the Authority, and six members who represent the tourism industry appointed by the Governor. The terms of the members of any corporation established to promote the tourism industry in the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor shall be four years.

The Board shall require any such corporation to report to it at least annually on its activities.

Any such corporation shall develop and administer a marketing program titled "Founder of America Communities' Program" (the "Program") to coincide with the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown in 1607. The Program shall be designed to promote the sites and localities in the Commonwealth that have colonial or revolutionary historical significance, and any fairs and festivals created to honor Virginia's founding generation, and to honor those leaders from Virginia's colonial and early history who were essential in the founding of America.