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## HOUSE BILL NO. 1875

House Amendments in [ ] — January 20, 2003

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 10.1-502 and 10.1-503 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the composition, officers, and duties of the Soil and Water Conservation Board.*

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate Thomas

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

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

**1. That §§ 10.1-502 and 10.1-503 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 10.1-502. Soil and Water Conservation Board; composition.

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board is continued and shall perform the functions conferred upon it in this chapter. The Board shall consist of ~~twelve~~ 10 voting members. The Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, ~~the Director of the State Cooperative Extension Service, the Director of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Research Division, the Associate Vice President for Agriculture and Extension of Virginia State University, and the State Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services or their designees or his designee,~~ shall be ~~members~~ a member of the Board. ~~One member~~ Three at-large members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor, for a term coincident with that of the appointing Governor; vacancies in the office of such appointed ~~member~~ members shall be filled by the Governor. [ *At least 2 of the 3 at-large members should have a demonstrated interest in natural resource conservation with a background or knowledge in dam safety, soil conservation, water quality protection, or urban point or nonpoint source pollution control.* ] Four members shall be farmers and ~~two~~ 2 members shall be farmers or district directors, appointed by the Governor from a list of ~~two~~ 2 qualified nominees for each vacancy submitted by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Soil and Water Conservation Board in joint session, each for a term of ~~four~~ 4 years. Appointed members shall not serve more than ~~two~~ 2 consecutive full terms. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be made in the same manner as described above, except that such appointments shall be for the unexpired terms only. The Board may invite the Virginia State Conservationist, ~~Soil Conservation Service Natural~~ [ *Resource Resources Conservation* ] Service, to serve as an advisory nonvoting member. The Board shall keep a record of its official actions, shall adopt a seal and may perform acts, hold public hearings, and promulgate regulations necessary for the execution of its functions under this chapter.

§ 10.1-503. Administrative officer and other employees; executive committee.

The Director shall provide technical experts and other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, necessary for the execution of the functions of the Board. The Board may create an executive committee and delegate to the chairman of the Board, or to the committee or to ~~one or more~~ agents or employees *the Director*, such powers and duties as it deems proper. Upon request of the Board, for the purpose of carrying out any of its functions, the supervising officer of any state agency or of any state institution of learning shall, insofar as possible under available appropriations, and having due regard for the needs of the agency to which the request is directed, assign or detail to the Board, members of the staff or personnel of the agency or institution, and make special reports, surveys, or studies requested by the Board.

ENGROSSED

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