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HOUSE BILL NO. 1996 Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled January 7, 2003

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 29.1-310.2, relating to recreational boat freshwater fishing licenses.

Patron-Ware

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 29.1-310.2 as follows:

§ 29.1-310.2. Recreational boat freshwater fishing license.

Any resident owner or operator of a boat used for recreational fishing in the inland waters of the Commonwealth shall have the option to purchase a recreational boat freshwater fishing license, which covers himself and any resident passengers while fishing from such boat, in lieu of the other fishing license requirements set forth in this article. The cost of the license shall be \$50 a year per boat. If the owner or operator of the boat does not purchase this license, then individuals on the boat are required to purchase a freshwater fishing license as otherwise required by this article. A recreational boat freshwater fishing license shall not apply to designated waters stocked with trout, in waters where the Department imposes a daily fishing fee, or to nonresidents.