

2004 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 112

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled December 22, 2003

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 53.1-2, 53.1-4, and 53.1-6 of the Code of Virginia, relating to State Board of Corrections; composition.*

Patron—Van Landingham

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 53.1-2, 53.1-4, and 53.1-6 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 53.1-2. Appointment of members; qualifications; terms and vacancies.

There shall be a State Board of Corrections, which shall consist of ~~nine~~ 12 residents of the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. In making appointments the Governor shall endeavor to select appointees of such qualifications and experience that the membership of the Board shall include persons suitably qualified to consider and act upon the various matters under the Board's jurisdiction. *These appointees shall include three community leaders, three elected officials, three members of the medical profession and three citizens with an immediate family member incarcerated within the Commonwealth of Virginia.*

For purposes of this section, "community leaders" means citizens of the Commonwealth who have served for two or more consecutive years as director, assistant director, administrator, or member of the board of directors of a nonprofit community or faith-based organization. "Members of the medical profession" means those persons licensed under Article 3 (§ 54.1-2929 et seq.) of Chapter 29 of Title 54.1, psychologists licensed under Chapter 36 (§ 54.1-3600 et seq.) of Title 54.1, and licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners licensed under § 54.1-3507.

Members of the Board shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall be appointed for terms of four years. A vacancy other than by expiration of term shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term.

No person shall be eligible to serve more than two full consecutive four-year terms.

§ 53.1-4. Meetings; quorum; officers; main office.

The Board shall meet at least six times each calendar year and at other times as it deems appropriate. ~~Five~~Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The Board shall select a chairman and secretary from its membership. The main office of the Board shall be in Richmond.

§ 53.1-6. Board may administer oaths, conduct hearings and issue subpoenas.

Board in the exercise and performance of its functions, duties and powers under the provisions of this title is authorized to hold and conduct hearings, *to enter and inspect state correctional facilities at any time*, issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses and the production of records, memoranda, papers and other documents, to administer oaths and to take testimony thereunder.

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