

2004 SESSION

INTRODUCED

044464808

SENATE BILL NO. 200

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 13, 2004

A BILL to amend and reenact § 3.1-610.26:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to beekeeper assistance.

Patron—Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.1-610.26:1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1-610.26:1. Powers and duties of Commissioner.

The Commissioner shall have the power and duty:

1. To receive and dispense funds;

2. To develop and administer, in consultation with the Plant Pollination Advisory Board, a beekeeper assistance program that is designed to assist Virginia beekeepers in maintaining healthy, productive colonies. The program shall include, but not be limited to: the provision of miticide to beekeepers; establishment of a queen production program; and assistance to beekeepers in establishing a cooperative organization where (i) supplies can be purchased at a wholesale price, (ii) honey can be extracted at a health-approved facility, and (iii) assistance is provided in the marketing of bulk honey.

3. To enter into contracts for the purpose of developing new or improved markets or marketing methods for bees and bee products and pollination services;

34. To contract for scientific research services and to contract to develop improved pollinating behavior in ~~honey bees~~ honeybees and other pollinating insects;

45. To contract for rearing numbers of improved queen bees sufficient for distribution or sale to beekeepers;

56. To enter into agreements with any local, state or national organization or agency engaged in education for the purpose of disseminating information on pollinators and pollination of crops;

67. To rent or purchase office and laboratory space and land as necessary to carry out its duties; and

78. To appoint employees, full- or part-time, and to fix their compensation, if any, in accord with the provisions of the Virginia Personnel Act, (§ 2.2-2900 et seq).

INTRODUCED

SB200