

2004 SESSION

INTRODUCED

041155160

SENATE BILL NO. 610

Offered January 21, 2004

A BILL to amend and reenact § 17.1-300 of the Code of Virginia, relating to composition of Supreme Court.

Patron—Stolle

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 17.1-300 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 17.1-300. Composition of Court; quorum; Chief Justice.

A. The Supreme Court shall consist of seven justices, any four of whom convened shall constitute a quorum. The Chief Justice shall be elected by majority vote of the justices of the Supreme Court to serve a term of four years. An eligible justice may decline to serve as Chief Justice, or a Chief Justice may resign as such, without thereby relinquishing his membership on the Court as a justice thereof.

B. *The Chief Justice may, upon his own initiative, designate a senior, retired, or active judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia, with the prior consent of such judge, to serve on panels that will consider petitions for appeal. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to increase the number of justices of the Supreme Court provided for in Section 2 of Article VI of the Constitution of Virginia and in subsection A of this section.*

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.

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