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SENATE BILL NO. 76

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Local Government on January 27, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Potts)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Subtitle I of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-109, relating to regulations on political campaign signs.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Subtitle I of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-109 as follows:

§ 15.2-109. Regulations on political campaign signs.

No locality shall have the authority to prohibit the display of political campaign signs on private property if the signs are in compliance with zoning and right-of-way restrictions applicable to non-political signs, during the 30 days before a general, primary, special, or referendum election, if the signs have been posted with the permission of the owner. For the purposes of this section, the term "political campaign signs" means only those signs that comply with the basic disclosure requirements for political campaign advertisements set out in § 24.2-943. The provisions of this section shall supercede the provisions of any local ordinance or regulation in conflict with this section. This section shall have no effect upon the regulations of the Virginia Department of Transportation.