

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2005 SESSION

## CHAPTER 457

*An Act to amend and reenact §§ 10.1-2300 and 10.1-2301 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the State Archeologist.*

[H 2078]

Approved March 21, 2005

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 10.1-2300 and 10.1-2301 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 10.1-2300. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Field investigation" means the study of the traces of human culture at any site by means of surveying, sampling, excavating, or removing surface or subsurface material, or going on a site with that intent.

"Object of antiquity" means any relic, artifact, remain, including human skeletal remains, specimen, or other archaeological article that may be found on, in or below the surface of the earth which has historic, scientific, archaeological or educational value.

"Person" means any natural individual, partnership, association, corporation or other legal entity.

"Site" means a geographical area on dry land that contains any evidence of human activity which is or may be the source of important historic, scientific, archaeological or educational data or objects.

"State archaeological site" means an area designated by the Department in which it is reasonable to expect to find objects of antiquity.

"State archaeological zone" means an interrelated grouping of state archaeological sites.

*"State archaeologist" means the individual designated pursuant to § 10.1-2301.*

"State-controlled land" means any land owned by the Commonwealth or under the primary administrative jurisdiction of any state agency. State agency shall not mean any county, city or town, or any board or authority organized under state law to perform local or regional functions. Such land includes but is not limited to state parks, state wildlife areas, state recreation areas, highway rights-of-way and state-owned easements.

§ 10.1-2301. Duties of Director.

The Director shall:

1. Coordinate all archaeological research on state-controlled land and in state archaeological sites and zones;

2. Coordinate a survey of significant archaeological sites located on state-controlled land, and upon request, survey and officially recognize significant archaeological sites on privately owned property;

3. Identify, evaluate, preserve and protect sites and objects of antiquity which have historic, scientific, archaeological or educational value and are located on state-controlled land or on state archaeological sites or zones;

4. Protect archaeological sites and objects located on state-controlled land or on state archaeological sites or zones from neglect, desecration, damage and destruction;

5. Ensure that archaeological sites and objects located on state-controlled land or on state archaeological sites or zones are identified, evaluated and properly explored so that adequate records may be made;

6. Encourage private owners of designated state archaeological sites to cooperate with the Commonwealth to preserve the site; ~~and~~

7. Encourage a statewide archaeological education program to inform the general public of the importance of its irreplaceable archaeological heritage; *and*

8. *Designate the State Archaeologist to (i) assist the Director by coordinating, overseeing, or otherwise carrying out the provisions of this chapter and (ii) perform such other duties as required by the Director. The State Archaeologist shall be a technically trained archaeologist and shall have both a practical and theoretical knowledge of archaeology.*