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HOUSE BILL NO. 1130

Offered January 11, 2006

Prefiled January 11, 2006

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-102 of the Code of Virginia, relating to composition of the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Patrons—Cline, Athey, Cosgrove, Crockett-Stark, Gear, Gilbert, Landes, Morgan and Saxman

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 29.1-102 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 29.1-102. Board of Game and Inland Fisheries; how constituted; meetings.

The Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries is continued and shall hereafter be known as the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries.

A. The Board shall consist of not more than one *nonlegislative citizen* member from each congressional district. ~~Each member of the Board shall~~ *Members shall be appointed as follows: six nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly; three nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principals of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; and two nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. Nonlegislative citizen members of the Board shall be citizens of the Commonwealth.* Members shall be appointed for terms of one to four years; however, appointments shall be made in a manner whereby no more than three members shall have terms which expire in the same year. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made in the same manner, but only for the unexpired term. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. Members may be removed from office during their respective terms by the Governor.

B. The Board shall adopt rules and procedures for the conduct of its business.

C. The Board shall elect one of its members as its chairman, who shall preside at all regular and called meetings of the Board.

D. The Board shall meet once every three months beginning July 1 of each year for the transaction of business, and other meetings may be called if necessary. The majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. In the event of unavoidable absence of the chairman, the members present shall designate some other member to act in place of the chairman. Meetings shall be held in Richmond or at such other places within the Commonwealth as may be expedient.

2. That this act shall not be construed to affect existing appointments for which the terms have not expired. In making appointments to fill vacancies of nonlegislative citizen members, the Governor shall make the first such appointment, and subsequent appointments to fill vacancies shall be made by the Speaker of the House followed by the Senate Committee on Rules. All appointments to fill vacancies shall be made pursuant to the alternating procedure herein described, until the appointment of the new 11 nonlegislative citizen members has been completed. Thereafter, all appointments shall be made in accordance with this act.

INTRODUCED

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