HOUSE BILL NO. 1143

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AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee on Privileges and Elections on February 3, 2006)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Orrrock)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-904 of the Code of Virginia, relating to campaign finance; filings by candidates and campaign committees; statements of organization; penalties.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 24.2-904 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 24.2-904. Appointment of campaign treasurer; designation of campaign committee and depository; statements of organization; penalties.

A. Upon accepting any contribution for his candidacy, each candidate for nomination or election shall appoint a single campaign treasurer and may designate not more than one campaign committee to receive all contributions and make all expenditures for him or on his behalf in connection with his nomination or election and to file the reports required by this chapter. The payment of a primary filing fee by the candidate constitutes the acceptance of a contribution for the purposes of this section. At the same time he shall designate a campaign depository in a financial institution within the Commonwealth. He shall provide, on a statement of organization form prescribed by the State Board, the name and address of the campaign treasurer, the name of the financial institution for his campaign depository, and, if one, the name of the campaign committee. In the case of any candidate who seeks election for successive terms in the same office, the form filed by the candidate shall continue in effect for such successive elections, but the candidate shall file notice of any changes in the information provided on the form within 10 days of the change with the State Board, local electoral board, or both, as appropriate.

Any individual seeking or campaigning for an office of the Commonwealth or one of its governmental units in a party nomination process or general, primary, or special election shall file a statement of organization within 10 days of appointing a campaign treasurer, designating a campaign committee, or designating a campaign depository as required by this subsection.

He shall file the form with the (i) electoral board of the county or city in which he resides if he is a candidate for local office, (ii) electoral board of the county or city in which he resides and the State Board if he is a candidate for the General Assembly and a copy of the form with the local electoral board of the county or city in which he resides, or (iii) State Board if he is a candidate for statewide office. Every treasurer so appointed shall accept the appointment, in writing on the form, prior to the filing thereof. No individual shall act as treasurer unless the required statement of appointment shall have been filed. No individual shall be appointed or act as treasurer in any election who is not a qualified voter of the Commonwealth. The same person may serve as campaign treasurer for more than one candidate.

- B. In the event of the death, resignation, removal, or change of the treasurer, the candidate shall designate a successor and file the name and address of the successor within 10 days of the change with the State Board, local electoral board, or both, as provided in subsection A.
- C. Any candidate who fails to appoint and report the appointment of a treasurer or successor treasurer shall be deemed to have appointed himself treasurer and shall comply as such with the provisions of this chapter.