

2006 SESSION

INTRODUCED

065345520

HOUSE BILL NO. 1536

Offered January 20, 2006

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 13.2 of Title 55 a section numbered 55-248.38:3, relating to Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act; property of deceased tenants.

Patron—Suit

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 13.2 of Title 55 a section numbered 55-248.38:3 as follows:

§ 55-248.38:3. Disposal of property of deceased tenants.

If a tenant who has no other tenants or authorized occupants living in the dwelling unit with the tenant dies, and there is no person authorized under the deceased tenant's will and testament or person authorized by order of the circuit court to handle probate matters for the deceased tenant, the landlord may dispose of the personal property left in the premises, or in a storage area provided by the landlord, provided the landlord has either (i) given at least 10 days written notice to the person or persons identified in the rental application, lease agreement, or other landlord document as the authorized person to contact in the event of the death of the tenant, or (ii) if no such person is identified in the rental application, lease agreement, or other landlord document as the authorized contact person, given at least 10 days written notice to the tenant in accordance with § 55-248.6, which includes a statement that any items of personal property left in the premises would be treated as abandoned property and disposed of within 30 days in accordance with the provisions of § 55-248.38:1.

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