

2006 SESSION

INTRODUCED

064195460

HOUSE BILL NO. 631

Offered January 11, 2006

Prefiled January 10, 2006

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 25.1-205.1, relating to mandatory dispute resolution in condemnation cases.

Patron—Phillips

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 25.1-205.1 as follows:

§ 25.1-205.1. Mandatory dispute resolution evaluation session.

Following the filing of a petition initiating a condemnation proceeding, the court shall refer the matter to a dispute resolution evaluation session. The court shall set a date for the parties to return to court in accordance with its regular docket and procedure, irrespective of the referral to an evaluation session. The parties shall notify the court, in writing, if the dispute is resolved prior to the return date.

Upon such referral, the parties shall attend one evaluation session. Further participation in a dispute resolution proceeding shall be by consent of all parties. Attorneys for any party may be present during a dispute resolution proceeding.

2. That the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court shall promulgate such procedures and prepare materials to implement the provisions of this section.

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