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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2273**

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled January 9, 2007

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 30 a chapter numbered 42, consisting of sections numbered 30-278 through 30-281, relating to the Virginia Commission on Deregulation; report.*

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 Patron—Purkey
 

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Referred to Committee on Rules

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 30 a chapter numbered 42, consisting of sections numbered 30-278 through 30-281, as follows:**

**CHAPTER 42.****VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON DEREGULATION.**

§ 30-278. *Virginia Commission on Deregulation; purpose; membership; terms.*

*The Virginia Commission on Deregulation (the Commission) is established in the legislative branch of state government. The purpose of the Commission is to study all possible sectors of the Virginia economy that could be deregulated to the benefit of the citizens of the Commonwealth.*

*The Commission shall have a total membership of 15 members that shall consist of 10 legislative members, two nonlegislative citizen members, and three ex officio members. Members shall be appointed as follows: six members of the House of Delegates, one of whom shall be a member of the Joint Commission on Health Care, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; four members of the Senate, one of whom shall be a member of the Joint Commission on Health Care, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; one nonlegislative citizen member representing the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates upon consideration of the recommendation of the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, if any; and one nonlegislative citizen member representing the Medical Society of Virginia to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules upon consideration of the recommendation of the Medical Society of Virginia, if any. The Attorney General, the Commissioner of the Department of Taxation, and the Director of the Office of Licensure and Certification of the Virginia Department of Health or their designees shall serve ex officio with voting privileges. Nonlegislative citizen members of the Commission shall be citizens of the Commonwealth. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the chairman of the Commission and the respective Clerk, nonlegislative citizen members shall be reimbursed only for travel originating and ending within the Commonwealth for the purpose of attending meetings.*

*Legislative members and ex officio members of the Commission shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office.*

*Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments. All members may be reappointed. Nonlegislative citizen members shall be appointed for a term of two years.*

*The Commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership, who shall be members of the General Assembly.*

§ 30-279. *Quorum; meetings; voting on recommendations; compensation; expenses; staffing.*

*A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The meetings of the Commission shall be held at the call of the chairman or whenever a majority of the members so request.*

*No recommendation of the Commission shall be adopted if a majority of the Senate members or a majority of the House members appointed to the Commission (i) vote against the recommendation and (ii) vote for the recommendation to fail notwithstanding the majority vote of the Commission.*

*Legislative members of the Commission shall receive such compensation as provided in § 30-19.12, and nonlegislative citizen members shall receive such compensation for the performance of their duties as provided in § 2.2-2813. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. However, all such compensation and expenses shall be paid from existing appropriations to the Commission or, if unfunded, shall be approved by the Joint Rules Committee.*

*Administrative staff support shall be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the House of Delegates or the Office of the Clerk of the Senate as may be appropriate for the house in which the chairman of the Commission serves. The Division of Legislative Services shall provide legal, research, policy analysis,*

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59 *and other services as requested by the Commission.*

60 *§ 30-280. Powers and duties of the Commission.*

61 *The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:*

62 *1. Study the benefits and consequences of deregulation.*

63 *2. Monitor the effect of deregulation on industries in Virginia.*

64 *3. Make recommendations of sectors of the Virginia economy that should be deregulated.*

65 *4. Submit to the General Assembly and the Governor an annual report for publication as a report*  
66 *document as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the*  
67 *processing of legislative documents and reports. The chairman of the Commission shall submit to the*  
68 *General Assembly and the Governor an annual executive summary of the interim activity, work, and*  
69 *recommendations of the Commission no later than the first day of each regular session of the General*  
70 *Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted for publication as a report document as provided*  
71 *in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative*  
72 *documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.*

73 *§ 30-281. Sunset.*

74 *This chapter shall expire on July 1, 2010.*

75 **2. For its first year of existence, if the Commission is not funded by a separate appropriation in**  
76 **the Appropriation Act, the Commission may be funded from the operating budgets of the Clerk of**  
77 **the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Delegates upon the approval of the Joint Rules**  
78 **Committee. If the Commission is not funded by a separate appropriation in the appropriation act**  
79 **for any year thereafter, this chapter shall expire on July 1 of the fiscal year that the Commission**  
80 **fails to receive such funding.**