# **2007 SESSION**

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#### **SENATE BILL NO. 1286**

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled January 10, 2007

4 5 6 A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 6.1-225.27, 13.1-801 through 13.1-804, 13.1-806 through 13.1-813, 13.1-815, 13.1-815.1, 13.1-816, 13.1-819, 13.1-820, 13.1-822 through 13.1-850, 13.1-852 through 13.1-855, 13.1-857 through 13.1-862, 13.1-864 through 13.1-872, 13.1-874 through 13.1-878, 13.1-879.1 through 13.1-883, 13.1-885, 13.1-886, 13.1-887.1, 13.1-888, 13.1-889, 13.1-891 through 7 13.1-897, 13.1-898.2 through 13.1-900, 13.1-902, 13.1-904, 13.1-906 through 13.1-917, 13.1-919 8 through 13.1-928.1, 13.1-929 through 13.1-934, 13.1-936, 13.1-936.1, 13.1-939, and 55-532 of the 9 Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 13.1-804.1, 13.1-810.1, 13.1-844.1, 13.1-847.1, 13.1-871.1, 13.1-897.1, 13.1-908.1, 13.1-908.2, 13.1-908.3, and 13.1-935.1 and by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 10 of Title 13.1 a section numbered 13.1-852.2 10 11 12 13 and by adding in Article 10 of Chapter 10 of Title 13.1 a section numbered 13.1-893.1, and to repeal §§ 13.1-890, 13.1-898, and 13.1-898.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia 14 15 Nonstock Corporation Act.

#### Patron—Stosch

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## Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

20 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

21 1. That §§ 6.1-225.27, 13.1-801 through 13.1-804, 13.1-806 through 13.1-813, 13.1-815, 13.1-815.1, 13.1-816, 13.1-819, 13.1-820, 13.1-822 through 13.1-850, 13.1-852 through 13.1-855, 13.1-857 through 13.1-862, 13.1-864 through 13.1-872, 13.1-874 through 13.1-878, 13.1-879.1 through 13.1-883, 13.1-885, 13.1-886, 13.1-887.1, 13.1-888, 13.1-889, 13.1-891 through 13.1-897, 13.1-898.2 22 23 24 through 13.1-900, 13.1-902, 13.1-904, 13.1-906 through 13.1-917, 13.1-919 through 13.1-928.1, 25 13.1-929 through 13.1-934, 13.1-936, 13.1-936.1, 13.1-939, and 55-532 of the Code of Virginia are 26 amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 27 13.1-804.1, 13.1-810.1, 13.1-844.1, 13.1-847.1, 13.1-871.1, 13.1-897.1, 13.1-908.1, 13.1-908.2, 28 13.1-908.3, and 13.1-935.1 and by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 10 of Title 13.1 a section 29 30 numbered 13.1-852.2 and by adding in Article 10 of Chapter 10 of Title 13.1 a section numbered 31 13.1-893.1, as follows: 32

§ 6.1-225.27. Voluntary merger.

33 A. A credit union organized under this chapter may merge, with the approval of the Commission, 34 with one or more other credit unions, state or federal. In any case in which the surviving credit union 35 will be a Virginia state-chartered credit union, a merger application, accompanied by an application fee 36 of \$300, shall be filed with the Commission. The Commission shall approve the application if the 37 Commission finds that:

38 1. The field of membership of the credit union which is proposed to result from the merger satisfies 39 the requirements of § 6.1-225.23 B;

2. The plan of merger will promote the best interests of the members of the credit unions; and

41 3. The members of the merging credit unions have approved the plan of merger in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Notwithstanding subdivision A 5 subsection D of § 13.1-895, the 42 members of a Virginia credit union may authorize a plan of merger by vote of at least a majority of all 43 votes cast thereon at an annual or special meeting at which a quorum is present. Notwithstanding the 44 45 terms of § 13.1-895, in a merger where a Virginia state-chartered credit union will be the resulting credit union, the adoption of the plan of merger by the board of directors of that credit union shall be 46 47 sufficient approval of the plan, and approval of the plan of merger by the members of that credit union shall not be required. Notice of the meeting may be given in a manner prescribed in the articles of 48 49 incorporation or bylaws, notwithstanding the terms of § 13.1-842 relating to the manner of notice. A 50 federal credit union merging with a state credit union may give notice to its members as prescribed by 51 federal regulation.

52 B. 1. If the Commission finds that the requirements of subsection A of this section have been met 53 and all required fees have been paid, it shall approve the merger and issue a certificate of merger, which shall be admitted to record in its office and in the office for the recording of deeds in the city or county 54 55 in which the registered office of each credit union is located. However, no such further recordation shall be required in the City of Richmond, County of Chesterfield or the County of Henrico. 56

2. Upon the issuance of the certificate of merger the provisions of § 13.1-897, mutatis mutandis, shall 57 58 become effective.

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59 C. For the purposes of this section, a member entitled to vote may vote in person or, unless the 60 articles of incorporation or bylaws otherwise provide, by proxy. A member may appoint a proxy to vote or otherwise act for him by signing an appointment form. An appointment of a proxy becomes effective 61 62 when received by the secretary or other officer or agent authorized to tabulate votes. An appointment is valid for eleven months unless a different period is expressly provided in the appointment form or the 63 64 appointment is revoked by the member.

65 § 13.1-801. Short title.

This chapter shall be known as the "Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act or the "Act."

§ 13.1-802. Reservation of power to amend or repeal. 67

The General Assembly of Virginia shall have power to amend or repeal all or part of this chapter Act 68 69 at any time, and all domestic and foreign corporations subject to this chapter Act shall be governed by 70 the amendment or repeal. 71

§ 13.1-803. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the term Act:

"Articles of incorporation" means all documents constituting, at any particular time, the charter of a 73 74 corporation. It includes the original charter issued by the General Assembly, a court or the Commission 75 and all amendments including certificates of merger, consolidation or correction. When the articles of incorporation have been restated pursuant to any articles of *restatement*, amendment, *domestication*, or 76 77 merger, it includes only the restated articles of incorporation without the accompanying articles of 78 restatement, amendment, domestication, or merger.

79 "Board of directors" means the group of persons vested with the management of the business of the 80 corporation irrespective of the name by which such group is designated, and "director" means a member 81 of the board of directors.

"Certificate," when relating to articles filed with the Commission, means the order of the 82 83 Commission that makes the articles effective, together with the articles.

"Commission" means the State Corporation Commission of Virginia. 84

"Conspicuous" means written so that a reasonable person against whom the writing is to operate 85 86 should have noticed it. For example, printing in italics or boldface or contrasting color or typing in 87 capitals or underlined is conspicuous.

88 "Corporation" or "domestic corporation" means a corporation not issuing authorized by law to issue 89 shares of stock, irrespective of the nature of its the business to be transacted, organized under this 90 chapter Act or existing pursuant to the laws of this the Commonwealth on January 1, 1986, or merged 91 with a corporation of this Commonwealth in such manner as thereby to that, by virtue of articles of 92 incorporation, amendment, or merger, has become a domestic corporation of this the Commonwealth, 93 even though also remaining a corporation of another state being a corporation organized under laws other than the laws of the Commonwealth or that has become a domestic corporation of the 94 Commonwealth pursuant to Article 11.1 (§ 13.1-898.2 et seq). of this Act. "Deliver" includes mail or "delivery" means any method of delivery used in conventional commercial 95

96 97 practice, including delivery by hand, mail, commercial delivery, and electronic transmission.

98 "Disinterested director" means a director who, at the time action is to be taken under § 13.1-871, 99 13.1-878, or 13.1-880, does not have (i) a financial interest in a matter that is the subject of such 100 action or (ii) a familial, financial, professional, employment, or other relationship with a person who 101 has a financial interest in the matter, either of which would reasonably be expected to affect adversely 102 the objectivity of the director when participating in the action, and if the action is to be taken under § 13.1-878 or 13.1-880, is also not a party to the proceeding. The presence of one or more of the 103 following circumstances shall not by itself prevent a person from being a disinterested director: (a) nomination or election of the director to the current board by any person, acting alone or participating 104 105 with others, who is so interested in the matter or (b) service as a director of another corporation of 106 107 which an interested person is also a director. 108

"Domestic business trust" has the same meaning as specified in § 13.1-1201.

109 "Domestic limited liability company" has the same meaning as specified in § 13.1-1002.

"Domestic limited partnership" has the same meaning as specified in § 50-73.1. 110

"Domestic partnership" means an association of two or more persons to carry on as co-owners of a 111 business for profit formed under § 50-73.88 or predecessor law of the Commonwealth and includes, for 112 113 all purposes of the laws of the Commonwealth, a registered limited liability partnership.

"Domestic stock corporation" has the same meaning as "domestic corporation" as specified in 114 § 13.1-603. 115 116

"Effective date of notice" is defined in § 13.1-810.

"Electronic transmission" means any form of communication, not directly involving the physical 117 118 transmission of paper, that creates a record that may be retained, retrieved and reviewed by a recipient 119 thereof, and that may be directly reproduced in paper form by such a recipient through an automated process. Any term used in this definition that is defined in § 59.1-480 of the Uniform Electronic 120

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121 Transactions Act shall have the meaning set forth in such section. For purposes of §§ 13.1-841 and 122 13.1-865, a written consent and the signing thereof may be accomplished by one or more electronic

123 transmissions.

124 "Eligible entity" means a domestic or foreign unincorporated entity or a domestic or foreign stock 125 corporation.

126 "Eligible interests" means interests or shares.

"Employee" includes, *unless otherwise provided in the bylaws*, an officer but not a director. A
 director may accept duties that make *him* also an employee.

"Entity" includes corporation and any domestic or foreign corporation; any domestic or foreign stock
 corporation; profit and not-for-profit unincorporated association; business trust, estate, partnership, trust,
 and two or more persons having a joint or common economic interest; and state, any domestic or
 foreign unincorporated entity; any estate or trust; any any state, the United States, and any foreign
 government.

**134** *"Foreign business trust" has the same meaning as specified in § 13.1-1201.* 

135 "Foreign corporation" means a corporation not issuing authorized by law to issue shares and,
136 organized under laws other than the laws of this the Commonwealth.

**137** "Foreign limited liability company" has the same meaning as specified in § 13.1-1002.

**138** "Foreign limited partnership" has the same meaning as specified in § 50-73.1.

139 "Foreign partnership" means an association of two or more persons to carry on as co-owners of a
140 business for profit formed under the laws of any state or jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, and
141 includes, for all purposes of the laws of the Commonwealth, a foreign registered limited liability
142 partnership.

143 "Foreign registered limited liability partnership" has the same meaning as specified in § 50-73.79.

**144** *"Foreign stock corporation" has the same meaning as "foreign corporation" as specified in* **145** § 13.1-603.

146 "Foreign unincorporated entity" means an unincorporated entity whose internal affairs are governed147 by an organic law of a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth.

**148** *"Government subdivision" includes authority, county, district, and municipality.* 

149 "Includes" denotes a partial definition.

150 "Individual" includes the estate of an incapacitated or deceased individual means a natural person.

151 "Insolvent" means inability of a corporation to pay its debts as they become due in the usual course 152 of its business.

153 "Interest" means either or both of the following rights under the organic law of a foreign or 154 domestic unincorporated entity:

155 1. The right to receive distributions from the entity either in the ordinary course or upon liquidation; 156 or

157 2. The right to receive notice or vote on issues involving its internal affairs, other than as an agent,
158 assignee, proxy, or person responsible for managing its business and affairs.

**159** *"Means" denotes an exhaustive definition.* 

160 "Member" means one having a membership rights interest in a corporation in accordance with the 161 provisions of its articles of incorporation or bylaws.

162 "Membership interest" means the interest of a member in a domestic or foreign corporation,163 including voting and all other rights associated with membership.

"Organic document" means the document, if any, that is filed of public record to create an
unincorporated entity. Where an organic document has been amended or restated, the term means the
organic document as last amended or restated.

167 "Organic law" means the statute governing the internal affairs of a domestic or foreign corporation 168 or eligible entity.

**169** "Person" includes *an* individual and *an* entity.

"Principal office" means the office, in or out of this *the* Commonwealth, where the principal
executive offices of a domestic or foreign corporation are located, or, if there are no such offices, the
office, in or out of this *the* Commonwealth, so designated by the board of directors. The designation of
the principal office in the most recent annual report filed pursuant to § 13.1-936 shall be conclusive for
purposes of this chapter Act.

175 "Proceeding" includes civil suit and criminal, administrative and investigatory action conducted by a
 176 governmental agency.

177 "Record date" means the date established under Article 7 (§ 13.1-837 et seq.) of this chapter Act on
178 which a corporation determines the identity of its members and their membership interests for purposes
179 of this chapter Act. The determination shall be made as of the close of business at the principal office of

180 the corporation on the record date unless another time for doing so is specified when the record date is

**181** *fixed.* 

182 "Shares" has the same meaning as specified in § 13.1-603.

183 "State" when referring to a part of the United States, includes any state or commonwealth, any 184 territory or insular possession of the United States, and any of their agencies and governmental 185 subdivisions.

186 "Transact business" includes the conduct of affairs by any corporation that is not organized for profit.

187 "Unincorporated entity" or "domestic unincorporated entity" means a domestic partnership, limited 188 liability company, limited partnership, or business trust.

189 "United States" includes any district, authority, bureau, commission, department, or any other agency 190 of the United States.

191 "Voting group" means all members of one or more classes that under the articles of incorporation or 192 this chapter Act are entitled to vote and be counted together collectively on a matter at a meeting of 193 members. All members entitled by the articles of incorporation or this chapter Act to vote generally on 194 the matter are for that purpose a single voting group.

"Voting power" means the current power to vote in the election of directors. 195 196

§ 13.1-804. Filing requirements.

197 A. A document shall satisfy the requirements of this section, and of any other section that adds to or 198 varies these requirements, to be entitled to be filed with the Commission.

199 B. The document shall be one that this chapter Act requires or permits to be filed with the 200 Commission.

201 C. The document shall contain the information required by this chapter Act. It may contain other 202 information as well.

203 D. The document shall be typewritten or printed or electronically transmitted and, if electronically 204 transmitted, shall be in a format that can be retrieved or reproduced in typewritten or printed form. The 205 typewritten or printed portion shall be in black. Photocopies, or other reproduced copies, of typewritten 206 or printed documents may be filed. In every case, information in the document shall be legible and the document shall be capable of being reformatted and reproduced in copies of archival quality. 207

208 E. The document shall be in the English language. A corporate name need not be in English if written in English letters or Arabic or Roman numerals. The articles of incorporation, duly authenticated 209 210 by the official having custody of corporate records in the state or country under whose law the corporation is incorporated, which are required of foreign corporations need not be in English if 211 212 accompanied by a reasonably authenticated English translation. 213

F. The document shall be executed in the name of the corporation:

214 1. By the chairman or any vice-chairman of the board of directors,  $\Theta$  the president, or any other of 215 its officers authorized to act on behalf of the corporation; 216

2. If directors have not been selected or the corporation has not been formed, by an incorporator; or

217 3. If the corporation is in the hands of a receiver, trustee, or other court-appointed fiduciary, by that fiduciary. 218

219 G. Any annual report required to be filed by § 13.1-936 shall be executed in the name of the 220 corporation by an officer or director listed in the report.

221 H. The person executing the document shall sign it and state beneath or opposite his signature his 222 name and the capacity in which he signs. Any signature may be a facsimile. The document may but 223 need not contain: 1. The a corporate seal; 2. An attestation by the secretary or an assistant secretary; 3. 224 An, acknowledgment, or verification, or proof.

225 I. If, pursuant to any provision of this chapter Act, the Commission has prescribed a mandatory form 226 for the document, the document shall be in or on the prescribed form.

227 J. The document shall be delivered to the Commission for filing and shall be accompanied by the 228 required filing fee, and any charter or entrance fee or registration fee required by this chapter or by 229 <u>§ 13.1-936.1</u> Act.

230 K. The Commission may accept the electronic filing of any information required or permitted to be filed by this chapter Act and may prescribe the methods of execution, recording, reproduction and 231 certification of electronically filed information pursuant to § 59.1-496. 232

233 L. Whenever a provision of this Act permits any of the terms of a plan or a filed document to be 234 dependent on facts objectively ascertainable outside the plan or filed document, the following provisions 235 apply:

236 1. The plan or filed document shall specify the nationally recognized news or information medium in 237 which the facts may be found or otherwise state the manner in which the facts can be objectively 238 ascertained. The manner in which the facts will operate upon the terms of the plan or filed document 239 shall be set forth in the plan or filed document. 240

2. The facts may include:

241 a. Any of the following that are available in a nationally recognized news or information medium 242 either in print or electronically: statistical or market indices, market prices of any security or group of 243 securities, interest rates, currency exchange rates, or similar economic or financial data;

- 244 b. A determination or action by any person or body, including the corporation or any other party to 245 a plan or filed document; or
- 246 c. The terms of or actions taken under an agreement to which the corporation is a party, or any 247 other agreement or document.
- 248 3. As used in this subsection:
- 249 a. "Filed document" means a document filed with the Commission under § 13.1-819 or Article 10

250 (§ 13.1-884 et seq.) or 11 (§ 13.1-894.1 et seq.) of this Act; and

251 b. "Plan" means a plan of merger.

4. The following terms of a plan or filed document may not be made dependent on facts outside the 252 253 plan or filed document:

- 254 a. The name and address of any person required in a filed document;
- 255 b. The registered office of any entity required in a filed document;
- 256 c. The registered agent of any entity required in a filed document; 257
  - d. The number of members and designation of each class of members;
- 258 e. The effective date of a filed document; and

259 f. Any required statement in a filed document of the date on which the underlying transaction was 260 approved or the manner in which that approval was given.

261 5. If a term of a filed document is made dependent on a fact objectively ascertainable outside of the 262 filed document and that fact is not objectively ascertainable by reference to a source described in 263 subdivision 2a or to a document that is a matter of public record, or if the affected members have not 264 received notice of the fact from the corporation, then the corporation shall file with the Commission 265 articles of amendment setting forth the fact promptly after the time when the fact referred to is first 266 objectively ascertainable or thereafter changes. Articles of amendment under this subdivision are deemed to be authorized by the authorization of the original filed document or plan to which they relate and 267 268 may be filed by the corporation without further action by the board of directors or the members.

6. The provisions of subdivisions 1, 2, and 5 of this subsection shall not be considered by the 269 270 Commission in deciding whether the terms of a plan or filed document comply with the requirements of 271 law.

272 § 13.1-804.1. Filing with the Commission pursuant to reorganization.

A. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in § 13.1-804, 13.1-819, 13.1-896, or 273 274 13.1-904, whenever, pursuant to any applicable statute of the United States relating to reorganizations 275 of corporations, a plan of reorganization of a corporation has been confirmed by the decree or order of 276 a court of competent jurisdiction, the corporation may, without action by the board of directors or 277 members to carry out the plan of reorganization ordered or decreed by such court of competent 278 jurisdiction under federal statute, put into effect and carry out the plan and decrees of the court relative 279 thereto (i) through an amendment or amendments to the corporation's articles of incorporation 280 containing terms and conditions permitted by this Act, (ii) through a plan of merger, or (iii) through 281 dissolution.

282 B. The individual or individuals designated by the court shall file with the Commission articles of 283 amendment, merger, or dissolution, which, in addition to the matters otherwise required or permitted by 284 law to be set forth therein, shall set forth: 285

1. The name of the corporation:

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286 2. The text of each amendment, plan of merger, or dissolution approved by the court;

287 3. The date of the court's order or decree approving the articles of amendment, plan of merger, or 288 dissolution; 289

4. The title of the reorganization proceeding in which the order or decree was entered; and

5. A statement that the court had jurisdiction of the proceeding under federal statute.

291 C. If the Commission finds that the articles of amendment, merger, or dissolution comply with the 292 requirements of law and that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of amendment, 293 merger, or dissolution.

294 D. This section does not apply after entry of a final decree in the reorganization proceeding even 295 though the court retains jurisdiction of the proceeding for limited purposes unrelated to consummation 296 of the reorganization plan. 297

§ 13.1-806. Effective time and date of document.

298 A. A certificate issued by the Commission becomes is effective at the time such certificate is issued, 299 unless the certificate relates to articles filed with the Commission and the articles state that the 300 certificate shall become effective at a later time and date specified in the articles. In that event the 301 certificate shall become effective at the *earlier of the* time and date so specified, so long as the effective 302 date is not more than fifteen days or 11:59 p.m. on the 15th day after the date on which the certificate is issued by the Commission. Any other document filed with the Commission shall become be effective 303 304 when accepted for filing unless otherwise provided for in this chapter Act.

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305 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A of this section, any certificate that has a delayed 306 effective time and date shall not become effective if, prior to the effective time and date, the parties to 307 the articles to which the certificate relates file a request for cancellation with the Commission and the 308 Commission, by order, cancels the certificate.

309 C. Notwithstanding subsection A of this section, for purposes of §§ 13.1-829 and 13.1-924, any 310 certificate that has a delayed effective date shall be deemed to become be effective when the certificate 311 is issued. 312

§ 13.1-807. Correcting filed articles.

313 A. The board of directors of a domestic or foreign corporation may authorize correction of any articles filed with the Commission if (i) the articles (i) contain an incorrect statement or inaccuracy; (ii) 314 the articles were defectively executed, attested, sealed, verified, or acknowledged; or (iii) the electronic 315 transmission of the articles to the Commission was defective. 316 317

B. Articles are corrected by filing with the Commission articles of correction setting forth:

1. By preparing articles of correction that describe the articles to be corrected, including their 318 319 effective date, and that correct the incorrect statement or defective execution The name of the corporation 320 prior to filing; and

2. By filing the articles of correction with the CommissionA description of the articles to be 321 322 corrected, including their effective date;

3. Each inaccuracy and defect that is to be corrected;

4. The correction of each inaccuracy and defect; and

5. A statement that the board of directors authorized the correction and the date of such 325 326 authorization.

327 C. Upon the issuance of a certificate of correction by the Commission, the articles of correction shall become effective as of the effective date and time of the articles they correct except as to persons 328 relying on the uncorrected articles and adversely affected by the correction. As to those persons, articles 329 330 of correction are effective upon the issuance of the certificate of correction.

D. No articles of correction shall may be accepted by filed with the Commission when received more 331 332 than nine 30 days after the effective date of the certificate relating to the articles to be corrected. 333

§ 13.1-808. Evidentiary effect of copy of filed document.

A certificate attached to a copy of any document admitted to the records of the Commission, bearing 334 335 the signature of the clerk or an assistant elerk of the Commission or a member of the staff of the office 336 of the clerk, which in either case may be in facsimile, and the seal of the Commission, which may be in 337 facsimile, is conclusive evidence that the document has been admitted to the records of the Commission. 338 § 13.1-809. Certificate of good standing.

339 A. Anyone may apply to the Commission for to furnish a certificate of good standing for a domestic 340 or foreign corporation.

341 B. The certificate shall state that the corporation is in good standing in this the Commonwealth and 342 shall set forth:

343 1. The domestic corporation's corporate name or the foreign corporation's corporate name used in this 344 *the* Commonwealth;

345 2. That (i) the domestic corporation is duly incorporated under the laws law of this the Commonwealth, the date of its incorporation, and the period of its duration if less than perpetual; or (ii) 346 347 the foreign corporation is authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth; and

348 3. If requested, a list of all certificates relating to articles filed with the Commission that have been 349 issued by the Commission with respect to such corporation and their respective effective dates.

350 C. A domestic corporation or a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth shall be deemed to be in good standing if: 351

352 1. All fees, fines, penalties and interest assessed, imposed, charged or to be collected by the 353 Commission pursuant to this chapter or Title 12.1 Act have been paid;

354 2. An annual report required by § 13.1-936 has been delivered to and accepted by the Commission; 355 and

356 3. No certificate of dissolution, certificate of withdrawal, or order of reinstatement prohibiting the 357 domestic corporation from engaging in business until it changes its corporate name has been issued or 358 such certificate or prohibition no longer is in effect.

D. The certificate may state any other facts of record in the office of the clerk of the Commission 359 360 that may be requested by the applicant.

361 E. Subject to any qualification stated in the certificate, a certificate of good standing issued by the 362 Commission may be relied upon as conclusive evidence that the domestic or foreign corporation is in good standing in this the Commonwealth. 363

§ 13.1-810. Notice. 364

365 For purposes of this chapter Act, except for notice to or from the Commission:

A. Notice shall be in writing except that oral notice of any meeting of the board of directors may be 366

given if expressly authorized by the articles of incorporation or bylaws. Notice by electronic 367 368 transmission is written notice.

369 B. Notice may be communicated in person; by mail or other method of delivery; or by telephone, 370 telegraph, teletype, voice mail or other form of wire or wireless communication; or by mail or private 371 carrier electronic means. If these forms of personal notice are impracticable, notice may be 372 communicated by a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the notice is intended to be 373 given, or by radio, television or other form of public broadcast communication in the area where notice 374 is intended to be given.

375 C. Written notice by a domestic or foreign corporation to its member, if in a comprehensible form, is 376 effective when mailed (i) upon deposit in the United States mail, if mailed postpaid and correctly 377 addressed to the member's address shown in the corporation's current record of members, or (ii) when 378 electronically transmitted to the member in a manner authorized by the member.

379 D. Written notice to a domestic <del>corporation</del> or a foreign corporation, authorized to transact business 380 in this the Commonwealth, may be addressed to its registered agent at its registered office or to the 381 corporation or its secretary at its principal office shown in its most recent annual report or, in the case 382 of a foreign corporation that has not yet filed an annual report, in its application for a certificate of 383 authority.

384 E. Except as provided in subsections B and subsection C of this section, written notice, if in a 385 comprehensible form, becomes is effective at the earliest of the following: 386

1. When received;

387 2. Five days after its deposit in the United States mail, as evidenced by the postmark, if mailed 388 postpaid and correctly addressed; or

389 3. On the date shown on the return receipt, if sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt 390 requested, and the receipt is signed by or on behalf of the addressee.

391 F. Oral notice becomes is effective when communicated if communicated in a comprehensible 392 manner.

G. If When this chapter Act prescribes notice requirements for particular circumstances, those 393 394 requirements govern. If articles of incorporation or bylaws prescribe notice requirements not inconsistent 395 with this section or other provisions of this chapter Act, those requirements govern.

396 H. Without limiting the manner by which notice otherwise may be given effectively to members, any 397 notice to members given by the corporation under any provision of this Act, the articles of 398 incorporation, or the bylaws, shall be effective if given by a form of electronic transmission consented to 399 by the member to whom the notice is given. Any such consent shall be revocable by the member by 400 written notice to the corporation. Any such consent shall be deemed revoked if (i) the corporation is 401 unable to deliver by electronic transmission two consecutive notices given by the corporation in 402 accordance with such consent and (ii) such inability becomes known to the secretary or an assistant 403 secretary of the corporation or other person responsible for the giving of notice, provided, however, that 404 the inadvertent failure to treat such inability as a revocation shall not invalidate any meeting or other action. Notice given pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed given: (a) if by facsimile 405 406 telecommunication, when directed to a number at which the member has consented to receive notice; (b) 407 if by electronic mail, when directed to an electronic mail address at which the member has consented to 408 receive notice; (c) if by a posting on an electronic network together with separate notice to the member 409 of such specific posting when such notice is directed to the record address of the member or to such 410 other address at which the member has consented to receive notice, upon the later of such posting or 411 the giving of such separate notice; and (d) if by any other form of electronic transmission, when 412 consented to by the member. An affidavit of the secretary or an assistant secretary or other agent of the 413 corporation that the notice has been given by a form of electronic transmission shall, in the absence of fraud, be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein. 414

415 § 13.1-810.1. Number of members.

416 A. For purposes of this Act, the following identified as a member in a corporation's current record 417 of members constitutes one member:

418 1. Two or more co-owners;

419 2. A corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, trust, 420 estate, or other entity; or

421 3. The trustees, guardians, custodians, or other fiduciaries of a single trust, estate, or account.

422 B. For purposes of this Act, membership interests registered in substantially similar names constitute 423 one member if it is reasonable to believe that the names represent the same person.

424 § 13.1-811. Penalty for signing false documents.

425 A. It shall be unlawful for any person to sign a document which he knows is false in any material 426 respect with intent that the document be delivered to the Commission for filing. Any person

427 B. Anyone who violates the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. SB1286

428 § 13.1-812. Unlawful to transact or offer to transact business as a corporation unless authorized.

429 It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or association to transact business in this the 430 Commonwealth as a corporation or to offer or advertise to transact business in this the Commonwealth 431 as a corporation unless the alleged corporation is either a Virginia domestic corporation or a foreign 432 corporation authorized to transact business in Virginia the Commonwealth. Any person who, individually 433 or as a member of a firm or association, violates this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. 434

§ 13.1-813. Hearing and finality of Commission action; injunctions.

435 A. The Commission shall have no power to grant a rehearing hearing with respect to any certificate 436 issued by the Commission with respect to any articles filed with the Commission except on a petition by 437 a member or director, filed with the Commission and the corporation within ten 10 days after the 438 effective date of the certificate, in which the member or director asserts that the certification of 439 corporate action contained in the articles contains a misstatement of a material fact as to compliance 440 with statutory requirements, specifying the particulars thereof. After hearing, on notice in writing to the 441 corporation and the member or director, the Commission shall determine the issues and revoke or refuse 442 to revoke its order accordingly.

443 B. No court within or without Virginia the Commonwealth shall have jurisdiction to enjoin or delay 444 the holding of any meeting of directors or members for the purpose of authorizing or consummating any 445 amendment, merger or dissolution, domestication, or termination of corporate existence, or the execution 446 or filing with the Commission of any articles or other documents for such purpose, except *pursuant to* 447 subsection C of § 13.1-845 or for fraud. No court within or without Virginia the Commonwealth, except 448 the Supreme Court by way of appeal as authorized by law, shall have jurisdiction to review, reverse, 449 correct or annul any action of the Commission, within the scope of its authority, with regard to any 450 articles, certificate, order, objection or petition, or to suspend or delay the execution or operation thereof, or to enjoin, restrain or interfere with the Commission in the performance of its official duties. 451

452 § 13.1-815. Fees to be collected by Commission; payment of fees prerequisite to Commission action; 453 exceptions.

454 A. The Commission shall assess the registration fees and shall charge and collect *the* filing fees, the 455 charter fees, and entrance fees imposed by law. The Commission shall have authority to certify to the 456 Comptroller directing refund of any overpayment of a fee, or of any fee collected for a document which 457 is not accepted for filing, at any time within one year from the date of its payment.

458 B. The Commission shall not file or issue with respect to any domestic or foreign corporation any 459 document or certificate specified in this chapter Act, except the report required by § 13.1-936, a statement of change pursuant to § 13.1-834 or 13.1-926, and a statement of resignation pursuant to 460 § 13.1-835 or 13.1-927, until all fees, charges, fines, penalties, and interest assessed, imposed, charged, 461 462 or to be collected by the Commission pursuant to this <del>chapter</del> Act or Title 12.1 have been paid by or on 463 behalf of such corporation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Commission may file or issue any 464 document or certificate with respect to a domestic or foreign corporation that has been assessed an annual registration fee if the document or certificate is filed or issued with an effective date that is prior 465 to the due date of the corporation's annual registration payment in any year. Except as hereinafter 466 467 provided, the issuance of a certificate of termination of corporate existence pursuant to § 13.1-913 shall 468 not have the effect of releasing any obligation that has accrued in favor of this the Commonwealth on 469 account of such assessment.

470 Any domestic corporation that has ceased to exist in the Commonwealth because of the issuance of a 471 certificate of termination of corporate existence or certificate of incorporation surrender or any foreign 472 corporation that has obtained a certificate of withdrawal, effective prior to its annual report due date 473 pursuant to subsection C of § 13.1-936 in any year, shall not be required to pay the registration fee for 474 that year. Any domestic or foreign corporation that has merged, effective prior to its annual report due 475 date pursuant to subsection C of § 13.1-936 in any year, into a surviving domestic corporation or into a 476 surviving foreign corporation that files with the Commission the certificate of merger prior to such date, shall not be required to pay the registration fee for that year. The Commission shall enter an order 477 478 withdrawing and canceling the registration fee assessments above specified remaining in this section that 479 remain unpaid. Registration fee assessments that have been paid shall not be refunded. 480

§ 13.1-815.1. Charter and entrance fees for corporations.

481 A. Every domestic corporation, upon the granting of its charter or upon domestication, shall pay a 482 \$50 fee into the state treasury, and every foreign corporation without capital stock shall pay \$50 into the 483 state treasury for its certificate of authority to conduct its affairs in this the Commonwealth.

484 B. For any foreign corporation that files articles of domestication and that had authority to transact 485 business in this the Commonwealth at the time of such filing, the charter fee to be charged upon 486 domestication shall be an amount equal to the difference between the amount that would be required by this section and the amount already paid as an entrance fee by such corporation. If no charter or 487 entrance fee has been heretofore paid to this the Commonwealth, the amount to be paid shall be the 488 489 same as would have to be paid on original incorporation or application for authority to transact business.

- 490 § 13.1-816. Fees for filing documents or issuing certificates.
- 491 The Commission shall charge and collect the following fees, *except as provided in § 12.1-21.2*:
- 492 1. For filing any one of the following, the fee shall be \$25:
- 493 a. Articles of incorporation, domestication, or incorporation surrender.
- 494 b. Articles of amendment or restatement.
- 495 c. Articles of merger.
- 496 d. Articles of correction.
- 497 e. An application of a foreign corporation for a certificate of authority to transact business in the **498** Commonwealth.
- 499 f. An application of a foreign corporation for an amended certificate of authority to transact business 500 in the Commonwealth.
- 501 g. A copy of an amendment to the articles of incorporation of a foreign corporation holding a 502 certificate of authority to transact business in the Commonwealth.
- 503 h. A copy of articles of merger or consolidation of a foreign corporation holding a certificate of 504 authority to transact business in the Commonwealth.
- 505 i. A copy of an instrument of entity conversion of a foreign corporation holding a certificate of 506 authority to transact business in the Commonwealth.
- 507 2. For filing any one of the following, the fee shall be \$10:
- 508 a. An application to reserve or to renew the reservation of a corporate name.
- 509 b. A notice of transfer of a reserved corporate name.
- 510 c. An application for use of an indistinguishable name.
- 511 d. Articles of dissolution.

- 512 e. Articles of revocation of dissolution.
- 513 f. Articles of termination of corporate existence.
- 514
- g. A statement of withdrawal of a foreign corporation.3. For issuing a certificate of change of name the fee shall be \$5. 515
- 516 § 13.1-819. Articles of incorporation.
- 517 A. The articles of incorporation shall set forth:
- 518 1. A corporate name for the corporation that meets satisfies the requirements of § 13.1-829.
- 519 2. If the corporation is to have no members, a statement to that effect.
- 520 3. If the corporation is to have one or more classes of members, any provision which the 521 incorporators elect to set forth in the articles of incorporation or, if the articles of incorporation so 522 provide, in the bylaws designating the class or classes of members, stating the qualifications and rights 523 of the members of each class and conferring, limiting or denying the right to vote.
- 524 4. If the directors or any of them are not to be elected or appointed by one or more classes of 525 members, a statement of the manner in which such directors shall be elected or appointed, and a 526 designation of ex officio directors, if any.
- 527 5. The address of its the corporation's initial registered office (including both (i) the post-office 528 address with street and number, if any, and (ii) the name of the city or county in which it is located), 529 and the name of its initial registered agent at that office, and that the agent is either (i) an individual 530 who is a resident of Virginia and either a director of the corporation or a member of the Virginia State 531 Bar or (ii) a domestic or foreign stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company or registered 532 limited liability partnership authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth.
- 533 B. The articles of incorporation may set forth:
- 534 1. The names and addresses of the persons *individuals* who are to serve as the initial directors.
- 2. Any provisions Provisions not inconsistent with law: 535
- 536 a. Stating the purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized.;
- 537 b. Regarding the management or of the business and regulation of the business affairs of the 538 corporation.;
- 539 c. Defining, limiting and regulating the powers of the corporation, its directors, and its members-; 540 and
  - d. Any provision that under this chapter Act is required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws.
- 542 C. It shall not be necessary to set forth in the The articles of incorporation need not set forth any of 543 the corporate powers enumerated in this chapter Act.
- 544 D. Provisions of the articles of incorporation may be made dependent upon facts objectively 545 ascertainable outside the articles of incorporation in accordance with subsection L of § 13.1-804.
- 546 E. Except as provided in subsection A of § 13.1-855, whenever a provision of the articles of 547 incorporation is inconsistent with a bylaw, the provision of the articles of incorporation shall be 548 controlling.
- 549 § 13.1-820. Issuance of certificate of incorporation.
- 550 If the Commission finds that the articles of *incorporation* comply with the requirements of law and

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551 that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of incorporation.

552 When the certificate of incorporation becomes is effective, the corporate existence shall begin. Upon 553 becoming effective, the certificate of incorporation shall be conclusive evidence that all conditions 554 precedent required to be performed by the incorporators have been complied with and that the 555 corporation has been incorporated under this chapter Act.

556 § 13.1-822. Organization of corporation. 557

A. After incorporation:

558 1. If initial directors are named in the articles of incorporation, the initial directors shall hold an 559 organizational meeting, at the call of a majority of the directors, to complete the organization of the corporation by adopting bylaws, appointing officers, and carrying on any other business brought before 560 the meeting- or 561

2. If initial directors are not named in the articles, the incorporator or incorporators shall hold an 562 563 organizational meeting at the call of a majority of the incorporators: 564

a. To elect a board of directors and complete the organization of the corporation; or

b. To elect directors who shall complete the organization of the corporation.

B. Action required or permitted by this chapter Act to be taken by incorporators at an organizational 566 567 meeting may be taken without a meeting if the action taken is evidenced by one or more written 568 consents describing the action taken and signed by each incorporator.

569 C. An organizational meeting may be held in or out of this the Commonwealth. 570

§ 13.1-823. Bylaws.

571 A. The initial bylaws of the corporation shall be adopted by its incorporators or board of directors of 572 a corporation shall adopt initial bylaws for the corporation.

573 B. The bylaws of a corporation may contain any provision for the regulation or management of 574 managing the business and regulating the affairs of the corporation that is not inconsistent with law or 575 the articles of incorporation. 576

§ 13.1-824. Emergency bylaws.

577 A. Unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, the board of directors of a corporation may 578 adopt bylaws to be effective only in an emergency defined in subsection D of this section. The 579 emergency bylaws, which are subject to amendment or repeal by the members, may make all provisions 580 necessary for managing the corporation during the emergency, including: 581

1. Procedures for calling a meeting of the board of directors;

2. Quorum requirements for the meeting; and

3. Designation of additional or substitute directors.

584 B. All provisions of the regular bylaws consistent with the emergency bylaws remain effective during 585 the emergency. The emergency bylaws are not effective after the emergency ends.

C. Corporate action taken in good faith in accordance with the emergency bylaws:

1. Binds the corporation; and

2. May not be used to impose liability on a corporate director, officer, employee or agent.

589 D. An emergency exists for purposes of this section if a quorum of the corporation's board of 590 directors cannot readily be assembled because of some catastrophic event. 591

§ 13.1-825. Purposes.

592 Every corporation incorporated under this chapter Act has the purpose of engaging in any lawful purpose or purposes, unless: 593

594 1. A statute requires the corporation to issue shares or one of the purposes of the corporation is to 595 conduct the business of a public service company other than a sewer company; or

596 2. A more limited purpose is (i) set forth in the articles of incorporation or (ii) required to be set 597 forth in the articles of incorporation by any other laws law of this the Commonwealth. 598

§ 13.1-826. General powers.

599 A. Unless its articles of incorporation provide otherwise, every corporation has perpetual duration and 600 succession in its corporate name and has the same powers as an individual to do all things necessary or 601 convenient to carry out its business and affairs, including, without limitation, power to: 602

1. Sue To sue and be sued, complain and defend, in its corporate name.;

603 2. Have To have a corporate seal, which may be altered at will, and to use it, or a facsimile of it, by **604** impressing or affixing it or in any other manner reproducing it.;

605 3. Purchase To purchase, receive, lease, or otherwise acquire, and own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal with, real or personal property, or any legal or equitable interest in property, wherever 606 607 located -:

4. Sell To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, and otherwise dispose of all or any part 608 609 of its property.

5. Purchase To purchase, receive, subscribe for, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, employ, 610 sell, mortgage, lend, pledge, or otherwise dispose of, and *deal* with, shares or other interests in, or 611 612 obligations of, any other domestic or foreign corporations organized for any purpose, associations,

partnerships or individuals, or direct or indirect obligations of the United States, or of any other 613 614 government, state, territory, governmental district or municipality or of any instrumentality thereof; and 615 to guarantee the payment of any bonds or other obligations of any association, partnership, or individual or any other domestic or foreign corporation organized for any purpose. entity; 616

617 6. Make To make contracts and guarantees, incur liabilities, borrow money, and issue its notes, 618 bonds, and other obligations, which may be convertible into, or include the option to purchase, other 619 securities or property of the corporation, and secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of all 620 or any of its property, franchises and, or income-;

621 7. Lend To lend money, invest and reinvest its funds, and receive and hold real and personal 622 property as security for repayment.;

623 8. Transact To transact its business, locate offices, and exercise the powers granted by this chapter 624 Act within or without this the Commonwealth.;

625 9. Elect To elect directors and appoint officers, employees, and agents of the corporation, define their 626 duties, fix their compensation, and lend them money and credit.;

627 10. Make To make and amend bylaws, not inconsistent with its articles of incorporation or with the 628 laws of this the Commonwealth, for managing or the business and regulating the business affairs of the 629 corporation-;

630 11. Make To make donations for the public welfare or for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or 631 educational purposes.;

632 12. Pay To pay pensions and establish pension plans, pension trusts, profit-sharing plans, bonus 633 plans, and other benefit and incentive and compensation plans for any or all of the current or former 634 directors, officers, employees, and agents of the corporation or any of its subsidiaries-;

635 13. Insure To insure for its benefit the life of any director, officer or employee of the corporation of 636 its directors, officers, or employees and to continue such insurance after the relationship terminates-;

637 14. Cease To make payments or donations or do any other act not inconsistent with this section or 638 any other applicable law that furthers the business and affairs of the corporation;

639 15. To pay compensation or to pay additional compensation to any or all directors, officers, and 640 employees on account of services previously rendered to the corporation, whether or not an agreement 641 to pay such compensation was made before such services were rendered; 642

16. To cease its corporate activities and surrender its corporate franchise-; and

643 15. Have 17. To have and exercise all powers necessary or convenient to effect any or all of the 644 purposes for which the corporation is organized.

645 B. Each corporation other than a banking corporation, an insurance corporation, a savings and loan 646 association institution or a credit union shall have power to enter into partnership agreements, joint 647 ventures, or other association of any kind with other corporations, whether organized under the laws of 648 this Commonwealth or otherwise, or with any individual or individuals associations of any kind with any 649 person or persons. The foregoing limitations on banking corporations, insurance corporations, savings 650 institutions, and credit unions shall not apply to the purchase by any such entity of any security of a 651 *limited liability company.* 

C. Privileges and powers conferred and restrictions and requirements imposed by other titles of the 652 653 Code on railroads or other public service companies, banking corporations, insurance corporations, **654** savings institutions, credit unions, industrial loan associations or other special types of corporations shall 655 not be deemed repealed or amended by any provision of this chapter Act except where specifically so 656 provided.

657 D. Each corporation which is deemed a private foundation, (as defined in § 509 of the Internal Revenue Code), unless its articles of incorporation expressly provide otherwise, shall distribute its 658 659 income and, if necessary, principal, for each taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to subject such corporation to tax under § 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code. Such corporation shall not 660 engage in any act of self-dealing, (as defined in § 4941 (d) of the Internal Revenue Code), retain any 661 662 excess business holdings, (as defined in § 4943 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code), make any investments in such manner as to give rise to liability for the tax imposed by § 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code, **663** 664 or make any taxable expenditures, (as defined in § 4945 (d) of the Internal Revenue Code). This 665 subsection shall apply to any corporation organized under this chapter after December 31, 1969, under this Act or under the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act (§ 13.1-201 et seq.) enacted by Chapter 428 of 666 667 the Acts of Assembly of 1956; and to any corporation organized before January 1, 1970, only for its 668 taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 1972, unless the exceptions provided in § 508 (e) (2) 669 (B) or (C) of the Internal Revenue Code shall apply, or unless the board of directors of such corporation 670 shall elect that such restrictions as are contained in this subsection shall not apply by filing written 671 notice of such election with the Attorney General and the clerk of the Commission on or before 672 December 31, 1971. Each reference to a section of the Internal Revenue Code made in this subsection 673 shall include future amendments to such Code sections and corresponding provisions of future internal

674 revenue laws.

675 § 13.1-827. Emergency powers.

676 A. In anticipation of or during any an emergency defined in subsection D of this section, the board 677 of directors of a corporation may:

678 1. Modify lines of succession to accommodate the incapacity of any director, officer, employee, or 679 agent.: and

680 2. Relocate the principal office, designate alternative principal offices or regional offices, or authorize 681 the officers to do so.

B. During an emergency defined in subsection D of this section, unless emergency bylaws provide 682 otherwise: 683

**684** 1. Notice of a meeting of the board of directors need be given only to those directors whom it is 685 practicable to reach and may be given in any practicable manner, including by publication and radio-; **686** and

2. One or more officers of the corporation present at a meeting of the board of directors may be 687 deemed by a majority of the directors present at the meeting to be directors for the meeting, in order of 688 689 rank and within the same rank in order of seniority, as necessary to achieve a quorum.

690 C. Corporate action taken in good faith during an emergency under this section to further the 691 ordinary business affairs of the corporation: 692

1. Binds the corporation; and

693 2. May not be used to impose liability on a corporate director, officer, employee, or agent of the 694 corporation.

695 D. An emergency exists for purposes of this section if a quorum of the corporation's board of 696 directors cannot readily be assembled because of some catastrophic event.

697 § 13.1-828. Ultra vires.

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698 A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, the validity of corporate action may not be 699 challenged on the ground that the corporation lacks or lacked power to act. 700

B. A corporation's power to act may be challenged:

1. In a proceeding by a member or a director against the corporation to enjoin the act; or

702 2. In a proceeding by the corporation, directly, derivatively, or through a receiver, trustee, or other 703 legal representative, against an incumbent or former officers, directors, employees or agents officer, 704 *director, employee, or agent* of the corporation; or 705

3. In a proceeding against a corporation before the Commission.

706 C. In a proceeding by a member or a director under subdivision 1 of subsection B of this section to 707 enjoin an unauthorized corporate act, the court may enjoin or set aside the act, if equitable, and may award damages for loss, other than except anticipated profits, suffered by the corporation or another 708 709 party because of enjoining the unauthorized act. 710

§ 13.1-829. Corporate name.

A. The A corporate name shall not contain any word or phrase that indicates or implies that it is 711 712 organized for the purpose of conducting any business other than a business which it is authorized to 713 conduct.

714 B. Except as authorized by subsection C of this section, a corporate name shall be distinguishable upon the records of the Commission from: 715

716 1. The name of any corporation, whether issuing shares or not issuing shares, existing under the laws 717 of this the Commonwealth or authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth; 718

2. A corporate name reserved or registered under § 13.1-631, 13.1-632, 13.1-830 or 13.1-831;

719 3. The designated name adopted by a foreign corporation, whether issuing shares or not issuing 720 shares, because its real name is unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth;

721 4. The name of a domestic limited liability company or a foreign limited liability company registered 722 to transact business in this the Commonwealth; 723

5. A limited liability company name reserved under § 13.1-1013;

6. The designated name adopted by a foreign limited liability company because its real name is 724 725 unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth;

7. The name of a domestic business trust or a foreign business trust registered to transact business in 726 727 this the Commonwealth: 728

8. A business trust name reserved under § 13.1-1215;

729 9. The designated name adopted by a foreign business trust because its real name is unavailable for 730 use in this the Commonwealth;

731 10. The name of a domestic limited partnership or a foreign limited partnership registered to transact 732 business in this the Commonwealth; 733

11. A limited partnership name reserved under § 50-73.3; and

734 12. The designated name adopted by a foreign limited partnership because its real name is unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth. 735

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736 C. A domestic corporation may apply to the Commission for authorization to use a name that is not 737 distinguishable upon its the Commission's records from one or more of the names described in 738 subsection B of this section. The Commission shall authorize use of the name applied for if:

739 1. The other entity consents to the use in writing and submits an undertaking in form satisfactory to 740 the Commission to change its name to a name that is distinguishable upon the records of the 741 Commission from the name of the applying corporation.

742 2. [Repealed.]

743 D. The use of assumed names or fictitious names, as provided for in Chapter 5 (§ 59.1-69 et seq.) of 744 Title 59.1, is not affected by this chapter Act.

745 E. The Commission, in determining whether a corporate name is distinguishable upon its records 746 from the name of any of the business entities listed in subsection B, shall not consider any word, phrase, 747 abbreviation, or designation required or permitted under § 13.1-544.1, subsection A of § 13.1-630, subsection A of § 13.1-1012, § 13.1-1104, subdivision 1 of § 50-73.2, and subdivision A 2 of § 50-73.78 748 749 to be contained in the name of a business entity formed or organized under the laws of this 750 Commonwealth or authorized or registered to transact business in this the Commonwealth. 751

§ 13.1-830. Reserved name.

752 A. Any A person or foreign or domestic corporation may apply to the Commission to reserve the 753 exclusive use of a corporate name, including a designated name for a foreign corporation whose corporate name is not available. If the Commission finds that the *corporate* name applied for is 754 755 available, it shall reserve the name for the applicant's exclusive use for a 120-day period.

756 B. The owner of a reserved corporate name may renew the reservation for successive periods of 120 757 days each by filing with the Commission, during the 45-day period preceding the date of expiration of 758 the reservation, a renewal application.

759 C. The owner of a reserved corporate name may transfer the reservation to another person or 760 corporation by delivering to the Commission a notice of the transfer, executed by the applicant for whom the name was reserved, and specifying the name and address of the transferee. 761

762 § 13.1-831. Registered name.

763 A. A foreign corporation may register its corporate name, or its corporate name with any addition 764 required by § 13.1-924, if the name is distinguishable upon the records of the Commission from the 765 corporate names that are not available under subsection B of § 13.1-829.

766 B. A foreign corporation registers its corporate name, or its corporate name with any additions addition required by § 13.1-924, by: 767

768 1. Filing with the Commission (i) an application setting forth the its corporate name of the 769 corporation, or its corporate name with any addition required by § 13.1-924, the state or country and 770 date of its incorporation, and a brief description of the nature of the business in which it is engaged; and 771 (ii) a certificate setting forth that such corporation is in good standing, (or a document of similar 772 import), from the state or country of incorporation, executed by the official who has custody of the 773 records pertaining to corporations; and

774 2. Paying to the Commission a registration fee in the amount of twenty dollars \$20. Except as 775 provided in subsection E of this section, registration is effective for one year after the date an 776 application is filed.

777 C. If the Commission finds that the corporate name applied for is available, it shall register the name 778 for the applicant's exclusive use.

779 D. A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may renew it for the succeeding year by 780 filing with the Commission, during the sixty-day 60-day period preceding the date of expiration of the 781 registration, a renewal application which that complies with the requirements of subsection B of this section, and by paying a renewal fee of twenty dollars \$20. The renewal application becomes is 782 783 effective when filed in accordance with this section and, except as provided in subsection E of this 784 section, renews the registration for one year after the date the registration would have expired if such 785 subsequent renewal of the registration had not occurred.

786 E. A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may thereafter obtain a certificate of 787 authority to transact business in this the Commonwealth under that the registered name or consent in 788 writing to the use of that name by a corporation thereafter incorporated under this chapter Act or by 789 another foreign corporation thereafter authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth. The **790** registration terminates when the domestic corporation is incorporated or the foreign corporation obtains a 791 certificate of authority to transact business in this the Commonwealth or consents to the authorization of 792 another foreign corporation to transact business in this the Commonwealth under the registered name.

F. A foreign corporation which that has in effect a registration of its corporate name may release 793 794 such name by filing a notice of release of a registered name with the Commission and by paying a fee 795 of ten dollars \$10.

796 § 13.1-832. Property title records.

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797 Whenever by merger or amendment to the articles of incorporation the corporate name of any 798 domestic or foreign corporation is changed or another domestic or foreign corporation succeeds to the 799 ownership of its property, a certificate reciting such change or succession shall be issued by the clerk of 800 the Commission upon request and such certificate, or if may be admitted to record in the deed books, in 801 accordance with § 17.1-227, of any recording office within the jurisdiction of which any property of the 802 corporation is located in order to maintain the continuity of title records upon paying a fee of \$10 to 803 the clerk of the court, but no tax shall be due thereon. If such corporation is not a domestic corporation 804 or a foreign corporation authorized to transact do business in this the Commonwealth, a similar 805 certificate by any competent authority of the state or country of incorporation, may be admitted to record in the deed books, in accordance with § 17.1-227, of any recording office within the jurisdiction 806 807 of which any property of the corporation is located in order to maintain the continuity of title records upon paying a fee of ten dollars \$10 to the clerk of the court, but no tax shall be due thereon. 808

809 § 13.1-833. Registered office and registered agent.

810 A. Each corporation shall continuously maintain in this the Commonwealth:

811 1. A registered office which that may be the same as any of its places of business; and

812 2. A registered agent, who shall be:

813 a. An individual who is a resident of this the Commonwealth and either an officer or director of the corporation or a member of the Virginia State Bar, and whose business office is identical with such the 814 815 registered office; or

816 b. A domestic or foreign stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company or registered 817 limited liability partnership authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth, the business office 818 of which is identical with the registered office; provided such a registered agent (i) shall not be its own 819 registered agent and (ii) shall designate by instrument in writing, acknowledged before a notary public, one or more natural persons at the office of the registered agent upon whom any process, notice or 820 821 demand may be served and shall continuously maintain at least one such person at that office. Whenever any such person accepts service, a photographic copy of such instrument shall be attached to the return. 822

823 B. The sole duty of the registered agent is to forward to the corporation at its last known address any 824 process, notice or demand that is served on the registered agent.

825 § 13.1-834. Change of registered office or registered agent.

A. A corporation may change its registered office or registered agent, or both, upon filing in the 826 827 office of the Commission a statement of change on a form supplied by the Commission that sets forth: 828

1. The name of the corporation;

2. The address of its current registered office;

830 3. If the current registered office is to be changed, the post-office address, (including the street and 831 number, if any), of the new registered office, and the name of the county or city in which it is to be 832 located: 833

4. The name of its current registered agent;

5. If the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent; and

835 6. That after the change or changes are made, the corporation shall will be in compliance with the 836 requirements of § 13.1-833.

837 B. A statement of change shall forthwith be filed in the office of the Commission by a corporation 838 whenever its registered agent dies, resigns or ceases to satisfy the requirements of § 13.1-833.

839 C. If (i) the business address of a registered agent changes to another place within this the 840 Commonwealth, (ii) the name of a registered agent changes, or (iii) a registered agent merges into an 841 entity that is qualified to serve as a registered agent pursuant to § 13.1-833, the registered agent or 842 surviving entity shall forthwith file a statement as required above except that it need be signed, either manually or in facsimile, only by the registered agent or the surviving entity and shall recite, reciting 843 844 that a copy of the statement has been mailed to the corporation on whose behalf it is to be filed. 845

§ 13.1-835. Resignation of registered agent.

846 A. A registered agent may resign his agency appointment by signing and filing with the Commission 847 his statement of resignation accompanied by his a certification that he has mailed a copy thereof to the principal office of the corporation by certified mail. The statement may include a statement that the 848 849 registered office is also discontinued.

B. The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on 850 851 the thirty-first day after the date on which the statement was filed. 852

§ 13.1-836. Service on corporation.

853 A. The A corporation's registered agent of a corporation is the corporation's agent for service of 854 process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served on the corporation. The registered agent may by instrument in writing, acknowledged before a notary public, designate a natural person or 855 persons in the office of the registered agent upon whom any such process, notice or demand may be 856 857 served and may, by instrument in writing, authorize service of process by facsimile by the sheriff, 858 provided acknowledgement of receipt of service is returned by facsimile to the sheriff. Whenever any

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- such person so designated by the registered agent accepts service of process or whenever service is by
   facsimile, a photographic copy of such instrument the instruments designating the person or authorizing
- **861** *the method of service and receipt* shall be attached to the return.

862 B. Whenever a corporation shall fail fails to appoint or maintain a registered agent in this the
863 Commonwealth, or whenever its registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the
864 registered office, then the clerk of the Commission shall be an agent of the corporation upon whom
865 service may be made in accordance with § 12.1-19.1.

866 C. This section does not prescribe the only means, or necessarily the required means, of serving a corporation.

**868** § 13.1-837. Members.

869 A corporation may have one or more classes of members or may have no members. If the 870 corporation has one or more classes of members, the designation of such class or classes and the 871 qualifications and rights of the members of each class shall be set forth in the articles of incorporation or, if the articles of incorporation so provide, in the bylaws. A corporation may issue certificates 872 873 evidencing membership *interests* therein. Memberships Membership interests shall not be transferable. 874 Members shall not have voting or other rights except as provided in the articles of incorporation or if 875 the articles of incorporation so provide, in the bylaws. Members of any corporation existing on January 876 1, 1957, shall continue to have the same voting and other rights as before January 1, 1957, until 877 changed by amendment of the articles of incorporation.

**878** § 13.1-838. Annual meeting.

879 A. A corporation shall hold *a meeting of members* annually at a time stated in or fixed in accordance880 with the bylaws a meeting of the members.

881 B. Annual meetings of members may be held at such place, either in or out of this the
882 Commonwealth, as may be provided in the bylaws or, where not inconsistent with the bylaws, in the
883 notice of the meeting.

884 C. If the articles of incorporation or bylaws so provide, members may participate in an annual
885 meeting by use of any means of communication by which all members participating may simultaneously
886 hear each other during the meeting. A member participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be
887 present in person at the meeting.

**888** D. The failure to hold an annual meeting at the time stated in or fixed in accordance with a corporation's bylaws does not affect the validity of any corporate action.

**890** § 13.1-839. Special meeting.

891 A. A corporation shall hold a special meeting of members on:

892 1. On call of the chairman of the board of directors, the president, the board of directors, or the
 893 person or persons authorized to do so by the articles of incorporation or bylaws-; or

894 2. In the absence of a provision in the articles of incorporation or bylaws stating who may call a
895 special meeting of members, a special meeting of members may be called by members having
896 one-twentieth of the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting.

897 B. Unless otherwise provided in the articles of incorporation, a written demand for a special meeting
898 may be revoked by a writing, including an electronic transmission, to that effect received by the
899 corporation prior to the receipt by the corporation of demands sufficient in number to require the
900 holding of a special meeting.

901 C. If not otherwise fixed under § 13.1-840 or § 13.1-844, the record date for determining members 902 entitled to demand a special meeting is the date the first member signs the demand.

903 C. Special members' meetings may be held at such place in or out of this Commonwealth as may be 904 provided in the bylaws or, where not inconsistent with the bylaws, in the notice of the meeting.

905 D. Special members' meetings may be held at such place in or out of the Commonwealth as may be 906 provided in the bylaws or, where not inconsistent with the bylaws, in the notice of the meeting.

907 E. If the articles of incorporation or bylaws so provide, members may participate in a special
908 meeting of members by use of any means of communication by which all members participating may
909 simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. A member participating in a meeting by this means
910 is deemed to be present in person at the meeting.

911 F. Only business within the purpose or purposes described in the meeting notice required by 912 subsection C of § 13.1-842 may be conducted at a special members' meeting.

913 § 13.1-840. Court-ordered meeting.

A. The circuit court of the city or county where a corporation's principal office is located, or, if none
in this the Commonwealth, where its registered office is located, may, after notice to the corporation,
summarily order a meeting of members to be held:

917 1. On petition of any member of the corporation entitled to participate in an annual meeting if an
918 annual meeting was not held within fifteen 15 months after its last annual meeting or, if there has been no annual meeting, the date of its incorporation; or

920 2. On petition of a member who signed a demand for a special meeting that satisfies the 921 requirements of § 13.1-839 if:

922 a. Notice of the special meeting was not given within thirty 30 days after the date the demand was 923 delivered to the corporation's secretary; or

924 b. The special meeting was not held in accordance with the notice.

B. The court may fix the time and place of the meeting, determine the members entitled to 925 926 participate in the meeting, specify a record date for determining members entitled to notice of and to 927 vote at the meeting, prescribe the form and content of the meeting notice, and enter other orders 928 necessary to accomplish the purpose or purposes of the meeting. 929

§ 13.1-841. Corporate action without meeting.

930 A. Action 1. Corporate action required or permitted by this chapter Act to be taken at a meeting of 931 the members may be taken without a meeting and without prior notice if the corporate action is taken 932 by all members entitled to vote on the corporate action, in which case no corporate action by the board 933 of directors if the action is taken by all of the shall be required.

934 2. Notwithstanding subdivision 1 of this subsection, if so provided in the articles of incorporation of 935 a corporation, corporate action required or permitted by this Act to be taken at a meeting of members may be taken without a meeting and without prior notice, if the corporate action is taken by members 936 937 who would be entitled to vote at a meeting of members having voting power to cast not fewer than the 938 minimum number (or numbers, in the case of voting by voting groups) of votes that would be necessary 939 to authorize or take the corporate action at a meeting at which all members entitled to vote on the 940 action thereon were present and voted.

941 3. The corporate action shall be evidenced by one or more written consents bearing the date of 942 execution and describing the corporate action taken, signed by all of the members entitled to vote on 943 the take such corporate action, without a meeting and delivered to the secretary of the corporation for 944 inclusion in the minutes or filing with the corporate records. Any corporate action taken by unanimous 945 written consent shall be effective according to its terms when all the requisite consents are in possession 946 of the corporation. A member may withdraw consent only by delivering a written notice of withdrawal 947 to the corporation prior to the time that all consents are in the possession of the corporation. Action 948 Corporate action taken under this section is effective as of the date specified therein, provided that the 949 consent states the date of execution by each member.

950 B. If not otherwise determined under § 13.1-840 or § 13.1-844, the record date for determining 951 members entitled to take *corporate* action without a meeting is the date the first member signs the 952 consent under subsection A of this section. No written consent shall be effective to take the corporate 953 action referred to therein unless, within 120 days after the earliest date of execution appearing on a 954 consent delivered to the corporation in the manner required by this section, written consents sufficient in 955 number to take corporate action are received by the corporation. A written consent may be revoked by 956 a writing to that effect received by the corporation prior to receipt by the corporation of unrevoked 957 written consents sufficient in number to take corporate action.

958 C. For purposes of this section, written consent may be accomplished by one or more electronic 959 transmissions, as defined in § 13.1-803. A consent signed under this section has the effect of a 960 unanimous vote of voting members, at a meeting and may be described as such in any articles or 961 document filed with the Commission under this chapter Act.

962 D. If this chapter corporate action is to be taken under this section by fewer than all of the members 963 entitled to vote on the action, the corporation shall give written notice of the proposed corporate action, 964 not less than five days before the action is taken, to all persons who are members on the record date 965 and who are entitled to vote on the matter. The notice shall contain or be accompanied by the same 966 material that under this Act would have been required to be sent to members in a notice of meeting at 967 which the corporate action would have been submitted to the members for a vote.

968 E. If this Act requires that notice of proposed corporate action be given to nonvoting members and 969 the *corporate* action is to be taken by unanimous consent of the voting members, the corporation shall 970 give its nonvoting members written notice of the proposed action at least ten not less than five days 971 before the action it is taken. The notice shall contain or be accompanied by the same material that under 972 this chapter Act would have been required to be sent to nonvoting members in a notice of meeting at 973 which the proposed corporate action would have been submitted to the members for action a vote. 974

§ 13.1-842. Notice of meeting.

975 A. 1. A corporation shall give notify members written notice of the date, time and place of each 976 annual and special members' meeting. Such notice shall be given, either personally or by mail, no less 977 than ten 10 nor more than sixty 60 days before the date of the meeting date except that notice of a 978 members' meeting to act on an amendment of the articles of incorporation, a plan of merger, 979 domestication, a proposed sale of assets pursuant to § 13.1-900, or the dissolution of the corporation 980 shall be given not less than twenty five 25 nor more than sixty 60 days before the meeting date. Unless 981 this Act or the articles of incorporation require otherwise, the corporation is required to give notice

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982 only to members entitled to vote at the meeting.

983 2. In lieu of delivering notice as specified in subdivision A 1 of this subsection, the corporation may **984** publish such notice at least once a week for two successive calendar weeks in a newspaper published in 985 the city or county in which the registered office is located, or having a general circulation therein, the 986 first publication to be not more than sixty 60 days, and the second not less than seven days, before the 987 date of the meeting.

988 3. In lieu of delivering notice as specified in subdivision 1 of this subsection, the corporation may 989 give members written notice of the date, time and place of each annual and special members' meeting 990 by a form of electronic transmission consented to by the member to whom the notice is given. A notice 991 given by a form of electronic transmission shall be given as far in advance of the meeting as would be 992 required if the notice was delivered as specified in subdivision 1 of this subsection. Any such consent of a member shall be revocable by the member by written notice to the corporation. Any such consent 993 994 shall be deemed revoked if (i) the corporation is unable to deliver by electronic transmission two 995 consecutive notices given by the corporation in accordance with such consent and (ii) such inability 996 becomes known to the secretary or other person responsible for the giving of notice; provided, however, 997 the inadvertent failure to treat such inability as a revocation shall not invalidate any meeting or other **998** action.

999 4. Unless this chapter or the articles of incorporation require otherwise, the corporation is required to 1000 give notice only to each member entitled to vote at such meeting.

1001 B. Unless this chapter Act or the articles of incorporation require otherwise, notice of an annual 1002 meeting need not state the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called. 1003

C. Notice of a special meeting shall state the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.

1004 D. If not otherwise fixed under § 13.1-840 or § 13.1-844, the record date for determining members 1005 entitled to notice of and to vote at an annual or special meeting is the elose of business on the day 1006 before the effective date of the notice to the members.

1007 E. Unless the bylaws require otherwise, if an annual or special meeting is adjourned to a different 1008 date, time, or place, notice need not be given of the new date, time, or place if the new date, time, or 1009 place is announced at the meeting before adjournment. If a new record date for the adjourned meeting is 1010 or shall be fixed by the bylaws under § 13.1-845, however, the notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given under this section to persons who are members as of the new record date. 1011

1012 F. Notice given pursuant to subdivision A 3 of this section shall be deemed given: (i) if by facsimile 1013 telecommunication, when directed to a number at which the member has consented to receive notice; (ii) 1014 if by electronic mail, when directed to the record address of the member or to such other electronic mail 1015 address at which the member has consented to receive notice; (iii) if by a posting on an electronic 1016 network together with separate notice to the member of such specific posting when such notice is 1017 directed to an address at which the member has consented to receive notice, upon the later of such posting or the giving of such separate notice; and (iv) if by any other form of electronic transmission, 1018 1019 when consented to by the member. An affidavit of the secretary or other agent of the corporation that 1020 the notice has been given by a form of electronic transmission shall, in the absence of fraud, be prima 1021 facie evidence of the facts stated therein.

1022 § 13.1-843. Waiver of notice.

1023 A. A member may waive any notice required by this <del>chapter</del> Act, the articles of incorporation, or 1024 bylaws before or after the date and time of the meeting that is the subject of such notice. The waiver 1025 shall be in writing, be signed by the member entitled to such the notice, and be delivered to the 1026 secretary of the corporation for inclusion in the minutes or filing with the corporate records. 1027

B. A member who attends member's attendance at a meeting:

1028 1. Waives objection to lack of notice or defective notice of the meeting, unless the member at the 1029 beginning of the meeting objects to holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting; and

1030 2. Waives objection to consideration of a particular matter at the meeting that is not within the 1031 purpose or purposes described in the meeting notice, unless the member objects to considering the 1032 matter when it is presented. 1033

§ 13.1-844. Record date.

1034 A. The bylaws may fix or provide the manner of fixing in advance the record date for one or more 1035 voting groups in order to make a determination of members for any purpose. If the bylaws do not fix or 1036 provide for fixing a record date, the board of directors of the corporation may fix a future date as the 1037 record date the date on which it takes such action or a future date.

1038 B. A record date fixed under this section may not be more than seventy 70 days before the meeting 1039 or action requiring a determination of members.

1040 C. A determination of members entitled to notice of or to vote at a members' meeting is effective for any adjournment of the meeting unless the board of directors fixes a new record date, which it shall do 1041 1042 if the meeting is adjourned to a date more than 120 days after the date fixed for the original meeting.

1043 D. If a court orders a meeting adjourned to a date more than 120 days after the date fixed for the 1044 original meeting, it may provide that the original record date continues in effect or it may fix a new 1045 record date.

§ 13.1-844.1. Conduct of the meeting.

1047 A. At each meeting of members, a chairman shall preside. The chairman shall be appointed as 1048 provided in the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or, in the absence of such a provision, by the board of 1049 directors.

1050 B. Unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise, the chairman shall determine the 1051 order of business and shall have the authority to establish rules for the conduct of the meeting.

1052 C. The chairman of the meeting shall announce at the meeting when the polls will open and close 1053 for each matter voted upon. If no announcement is made, the polls shall be deemed to have opened at 1054 the beginning of the meeting and to close upon the final adjournment of the meeting. 1055

§ 13.1-845. Members' list for meeting.

1056 A. The officer or agent having charge of the record of members of a corporation shall make, at least 1057 ten 10 days before each meeting of members, a complete list of the members entitled to vote at such 1058 meeting or any adjournment thereof, with the address of each. Where The list of members are entitled to 1059 vote the list shall be arranged by voting group and within each voting group by class.

B. For a period of ten 10 days prior to the meeting, the list of members shall be kept on file at the 1060 1061 registered office of the corporation or at its principal office and shall be subject to inspection by any 1062 member at any time during usual business hours. Such list shall also be produced and kept open at the time and place of the meeting and shall be subject to the inspection of any member during the whole 1063 time of the meeting for the purposes thereof. The original record of members shall be prima facie 1064 1065 evidence as to who are the members entitled to examine such list or records or to vote at any meeting of members. The right of the member of a corporation to inspect such list prior to a meeting shall be 1066 1067 subject to the limitations set forth in subsection  $\overline{C}$  of § 13.1-933.

1068 C. If the requirements of this section have not been substantially complied with, the meeting shall, 1069 on the demand of any member in person or by proxy, be adjourned until the requirements are complied 1070 with. Refusal or failure to prepare or make available the members' list does not affect the validity of 1071 action taken at the meeting prior to the making of any such demand, but any action taken by the 1072 members after the making of any such demand shall be invalid and of no effect. 1073

§ 13.1-846. Voting entitlement of members.

1074 A. Members shall not be entitled to vote except as the right to vote shall be conferred by the articles 1075 of incorporation or if the articles of incorporation so provide, in the bylaws.

1076 B. When directors or officers are to be elected by members, the bylaws may provide that such 1077 elections may be conducted by mail. If authorized by the board of directors, any requirement that any 1078 vote of the members be made by written ballot may be satisfied by a ballot submitted by electronic 1079 transmission, provided that any such electronic transmission shall either set forth or be submitted with 1080 information from which it can be determined that the electronic transmission was authorized by the 1081 member or the member's proxy.

1082 C. Unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, in the election of directors every member, 1083 regardless of class, is entitled to one vote for as many persons as there are directors to be elected at that 1084 time and for whose election the member has a right to vote.

1085 D. If a corporation has no members or its members have no right to vote, the directors shall have the 1086 sole voting power. 1087

§ 13.1-847. Proxies.

1088 A. A member entitled to vote may vote in person or, unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws otherwise provide, by proxy. In either event, the vote of the member or the member's proxy may be 1089 1090 submitted by electronic transmission if authorized as provided in subsection B of § 13.1-846.

1091 B. Without limiting the manner in which a member may authorize another person or persons to act 1092 for him as proxy pursuant to subsection A of this section, the following shall constitute a valid means by which a member may grant such authority: 1093

1094 1. A member may execute a writing authorizing another person or persons to act for him as proxy. 1095 Execution may be accomplished by the member or his authorized officer, director, employee or agent 1096 signing such writing or causing his signature to be affixed to such writing by any reasonable means, 1097 including, but not limited to, by facsimile signature.

1098 2. A member may authorize another person or persons to act for him as proxy by transmitting or 1099 authorizing the transmission of a telegram, cablegram or other means of electronic transmission to the person who will be the holder of the proxy or to a proxy solicitation firm, proxy support service 1100 organization or like agent duly authorized by the person who will be the holder of the proxy to receive 1101 1102 such transmission, provided that any such telegram, cablegram or other means of electronic transmission 1103 must either set forth or be submitted with information from which the inspectors of election can 1104 determine that the telegram, cablegram or other electronic transmission was authorized by the member.

1105 If it is determined that such telegrams, cablegrams or other electronic transmissions are valid, the 1106 inspectors, or if there are no inspectors, such other persons making that determination, shall specify the 1107 information upon which they relied.

1108 3. A member or the member's agent or attorney-in-fact may appoint a proxy to vote or otherwise act 1109 for the member by signing an appointment form or by an electronic transmission. An electronic 1110 transmission shall contain or be accompanied by information from which one can determine that the 1111 member, the member's agent or the member's attorney-in-fact authorized the transmission. Any copy, 1112 facsimile telecommunications or other reliable reproduction of the writing or transmission created 1113 pursuant to this subsection may be substituted or used in lieu of the original writing or transmission for 1114 any and all purposes for which the original writing or transmission could be used, provided that such 1115 copy, facsimile telecommunication or other reproduction shall be a complete reproduction of the entire 1116 original writing or transmission.

1117 C. An appointment of a proxy becomes is effective when a signed appointment form or an electronic 1118 *transmission of the appointment is* received by the secretary *inspectors of election* or other the officer or 1119 agent of the corporation authorized to tabulate votes. An appointment is valid for eleven 11 months 1120 unless a longer period is expressly provided in the appointment form.

1121 D. An appointment of a proxy is revocable by the member unless the appointment form 1122 conspicuously or electronic transmission states that it is irrevocable and the appointment is coupled with 1123 an interest. Appointments coupled with an interest include the appointment of:

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1. A creditor of the corporation who extended it credit under terms requiring the appointment; or 1125 2. An employee of the corporation whose employment contract requires the appointment-; or

1126 3. A party to a voting agreement created under § 13.1-852.2.

1127 E. The death or incapacity of the member appointing a proxy does not affect the right of the 1128 corporation to accept the proxy's authority unless notice of the death or incapacity is received by the 1129 secretary or other officer or agent authorized to tabulate votes before the proxy exercises his the proxy's 1130 authority under the appointment.

1131 F. An appointment made irrevocable under subsection D of this section is revoked when the interest 1132 with which it is coupled is extinguished.

1133 G. Subject to § 13.1-848 and to any express limitation on the proxy's authority appearing on the face 1134 of stated in the appointment form or electronic transmission, a corporation is entitled to accept the 1135 proxy's vote or other action as that of the member making the appointment.

1136 H. Any fiduciary who is entitled to vote any shares membership interest may vote such shares 1137 *membership interest* by proxy. 1138

§ 13.1-847.1 Voting procedures and inspectors of elections.

1139 A. A corporation may appoint one or more inspectors to act at a meeting of members and make a 1140 written report of the inspector's determinations. The corporation may designate one or more persons as 1141 alternate inspectors to replace any inspector who fails to act. If no inspector or alternate is able to act 1142 at a meeting of members, the person presiding at the meeting shall appoint one or more inspectors to 1143 act at the meeting. Each inspector, before entering upon the discharge of his duties, shall take and sign 1144 an oath faithfully to execute the duties of inspector with strict impartiality and according to the best of 1145 his ability.

1146 B. The inspectors shall (i) ascertain the number of members and the voting power of each, (ii) 1147 determine the number of the members represented at a meeting and the validity of proxies and ballots, 1148 (iii) count all votes, (iv) determine, and retain for a reasonable period a record of the disposition of, 1149 any challenges made to any determination by the inspectors, and (v) certify their determination of the 1150 number of members represented at the meeting and their count of all votes. The inspectors may appoint 1151 or retain other persons or entities to assist the inspectors in the performance of their duties.

1152 C. No ballot, proxies or votes, nor any revocations thereof or changes thereto, shall be accepted by 1153 the inspectors after the closing of the polls unless the circuit court of the city or county where the 1154 corporation's principal office is located or, if none in the Commonwealth, where its registered office is 1155 located, upon application by a member, shall determine otherwise.

D. In determining the validity of proxies and ballots and in counting the votes, the inspectors shall 1156 1157 be limited to an examination of the proxies, any envelopes submitted with those proxies, any information 1158 provided in accordance with subsection B of § 13.1-847, ballots, and the regular books and records of 1159 the corporation. If the inspectors consider other reliable information for the limited purpose permitted 1160 herein, they shall specify, at the time that they make their certification pursuant to clause (v) of 1161 subsection B, the precise information that they considered, including the person or persons from whom 1162 they obtained the information, when the information was obtained, the means by which the information was obtained, and the basis for their belief that such information is accurate and reliable. 1163

E. If authorized by the board of directors, any member vote to be taken by written ballot may be 1164 satisfied by a ballot submitted by electronic transmission by the member or the member's proxy, 1165

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1166 provided that any such electronic transmission shall either set forth or be submitted with information 1167 from which it may be determined that the electronic transmission was authorized by the member or the 1168 member's proxy.

1169 § 13.1-848. Corporation's acceptance of votes.

1170 A. If the name signed on a vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment corresponds to the name of a 1171 member, the corporation, if acting in good faith, is entitled to accept the vote, consent, waiver, or proxy 1172 appointment and give it effect as the act of the member.

1173 B. If the name signed on a vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment does not correspond to the 1174 name of a member, the corporation, if acting in good faith, is nevertheless entitled to accept the vote, 1175 consent, waiver, or proxy appointment and give it effect as the act of the member if:

1176 1. The member is a domestic or foreign corporation, association, estate, trust or partnership an entity 1177 and the name signed purports to be that of an officer, partner or agent of the entity;

1178 2. The name signed purports to be that of an administrator, executor, guardian, or conservator 1179 representing the member and, if the corporation requests, evidence of fiduciary status acceptable to the 1180 corporation has been presented with respect to the vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment; or

1181 3. The name signed purports to be that of an a receiver or trustee in bankruptcy of the member and, 1182 if the corporation requests, evidence acceptable to the corporation that such receiver or trustee has 1183 been authorized to vote the membership interest in an order of the court by which such person was 1184 appointed has been presented with respect to the vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment;

1185 4. The name signed purports to be that of a beneficial owner or attorney-in-fact of the member and, 1186 if the corporation requests, evidence acceptable to the corporation of the signatory's authority to sign for 1187 the member has been presented with respect to the vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment; or

1188 5. Two or more persons are the member as fiduciaries and the name signed purports to be the name 1189 of at least one of the fiduciaries and the person signing appears to be acting on behalf of all the 1190 fiduciaries.

1191 C. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 2 of subsection subdivisions B 2 and 5, in any case 1192 in which the will, trust agreement, or other instrument under which a fiduciary purports to act contains 1193 directions for the voting of membership interests in any corporation, or for the execution and delivery of 1194 proxies for the voting thereof, such directions shall be binding upon the fiduciary and upon the 1195 corporation if a copy thereof has been furnished to the corporation.

1196 D. The corporation is entitled to reject a vote, consent, waiver, or proxy appointment if the secretary 1197 or other officer or agent authorized to tabulate votes, acting in good faith, has reasonable basis for doubt 1198 about the validity of the signature on it or about the signatory's authority to sign for the member.

1199 E. The corporation and its officer or agent who accepts or rejects a vote, consent, waiver, or proxy 1200 appointment in good faith and in accordance with the standards of this section or subsection B of 1201 \$ 13.1-847 are not liable in damages to the member for the consequences of the acceptance or rejection.

1202 F. Corporate action based on the acceptance or rejection of a vote, consent, waiver, or proxy 1203 appointment under this section is valid unless a court of competent jurisdiction determines otherwise. 1204

§ 13.1-849. Quorum and voting requirements for voting groups.

1205 A. The bylaws may provide the number or percentage of members entitled to vote represented in 1206 person or by proxy, or the number or percentage of votes represented in person or by proxy, which shall 1207 constitute a quorum at a meeting of members. In the absence of any such provision, members holding 1208 one-tenth of the votes entitled to be cast represented in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum. 1209 The vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the members present or represented by proxy 1210 at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted upon by the members, unless a greater proportion is required by this chapter Act or the articles of 1211 incorporation. Members entitled to vote as a separate voting group may take action on a matter at a 1212 1213 meeting only if a quorum of those members exists with respect to that matter.

1214 B. Once a member is present represented for any purpose at a meeting it, the member is deemed 1215 present for quorum purposes for the remainder of the meeting and for any adjournment of that meeting 1216 unless a new record date is or shall be set for that adjourned meeting. 1217

C. Less than a quorum may adjourn a meeting.

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D. The election of directors is governed by  $\S$  13.1-852.

§ 13.1-850. Action by single and multiple voting groups.

1220 A. If the articles of incorporation or this chapter provide Act provides for voting by a single voting 1221 group on a matter, action on that matter is taken when voted upon by that voting group as provided in 1222 § 13.1-849.

1223 B. If the articles of incorporation or this chapter Act provides for voting by two or more voting 1224 groups on a matter, action on that matter is taken only when voted upon by each of those voting groups 1225 counted separately as provided in § 13.1-849. Action may be taken by one voting group on a matter 1226 even though no action is taken by another voting group entitled to vote on the matter.

1227 § 13.1-852. Voting for directors; cumulative voting.

1228 A. Unless otherwise provided in the articles of incorporation, directors are elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the members entitled to vote in the election at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

1230 B. Members do not have a right to cumulate their votes for directors unless the articles of 1231 incorporation so provide.

1232 C. A statement included in the articles of incorporation that "all of a designated voting group of 1233 members are entitled to cumulate their votes for directors" (or words of similar import) means that the 1234 members designated are entitled to multiply the number of votes they are entitled to cast by the number 1235 of directors for whom they are entitled to vote and cast the product for a single candidate or distribute 1236 the product among two or more candidates.

1237 D. Members otherwise entitled to vote cumulatively may not vote cumulatively at a particular 1238 meeting unless:

1239 1. The meeting notice or proxy statement accompanying the notice states conspicuously that 1240 cumulative voting is authorized; or

1241 2. A member who has the right to cumulate *his* votes gives notice to the secretary of the corporation 1242 not less than forty eight 48 hours before the time set for the meeting of his *the member's* intent to 1243 cumulate *his* votes during the meeting. If one member gives this *such a* notice, all other members in the 1244 same voting group participating in the election are entitled to cumulate their votes without giving further 1245 notice.

§ 13.1-852.1. Member or director agreements.

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A. An agreement among the members or the directors of a corporation that complies with this section is effective among the members or directors and the corporation, even though it is inconsistent with one or more of the other provisions of this chapter *Act* in that it:

1250 1. Eliminates the board of directors or, subject to the requirements of subsection A of § 13.1-872, one 1251 or more officers, or restricts the discretion or powers of the board of directors or any one or more 1252 officers;

1253 2. Establishes who shall be directors or officers of the corporation, or their terms of office or manner 1254 of selection or removal;

3. Governs, in general or in regard to specific matters, the exercise or division of voting power by or
between the members and directors or by or among *any of* them, including use of weighted voting rights
or director proxies;

4. Establishes the terms and conditions of any agreement for the transfer or use of property or the provision of services between the corporation and any member, director, officer or employee of the corporation, or among any of them;

1261 5. Transfers to one or more members, directors or other persons all or part of the authority to
1262 exercise the corporate powers or to manage the business and affairs of the corporation, including the
1263 resolution of any issue about which there exists a deadlock among directors or members;

1264 6. Requires dissolution of the corporation at the request of one or more of its *the* members, or
1265 directors, in the case of a corporation that has no members or in which the members have no voting
1266 rights, or upon the occurrence of a specified event or contingency; or

1267 7. Otherwise governs the exercise of *the* corporate power powers or the management of the business1268 and affairs of the corporation or the relationship among the members, the directors and the corporation, or among any of them, and is not contrary to public policy.

1270 B. An agreement authorized by this section shall be:

1271 1. a. Set forth in the articles of incorporation or bylaws and approved by all persons who are
1272 members or, if there are no members or the corporation's members do not have voting rights, by all
1273 persons who are directors at the time of the agreement; or

b. Set forth in a written agreement that is signed by all persons who are members or, if there are no members or the corporation's members do not have voting rights, by all persons who are directors at the time of the agreement;

1277 2. Subject to amendment only by all persons who are members or, if there are no members or the corporation's members do not have voting rights, by all persons who are directors at the time of the amendment, unless the agreement provides otherwise; and

1280 3. HValid for an unlimited duration, if the agreement is set forth in the articles of incorporation or
1281 bylaws, unless the agreement shall be valid for an unlimited duration unless otherwise amended by the
1282 members or the directors, as the case may be. H; or

4. Valid for 10 years, if the agreement is set forth in a written agreement, the agreement shall be
 valid for ten years, unless the agreement provides otherwise.

1285 C. The existence of a membership an agreement authorized by this section shall be noted
1286 conspicuously on the front or back of each certificate evidencing membership, if any. The failure to note
1287 the existence of the agreement on the certificate shall not affect the validity of the agreement or any
1288 action taken pursuant to it.

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1289 D. An agreement authorized by this section shall cease to be effective when the corporation has more 1290 than 300 members of record. If the agreement authorized by this section ceases to be effective for any 1291 reason, the board of directors may, if the agreement is contained or referred to in the corporation's 1292 articles of incorporation or bylaws, adopt an amendment to the articles of incorporation or bylaws, 1293 without member action, in the case of a corporation that has members, to delete the agreement and any 1294 references to it.

1295 E. An agreement authorized by this section that limits the discretion or powers of the board of 1296 directors shall relieve the directors of, and impose upon the person or persons in whom such discretion 1297 or powers are vested, liability for acts or omissions imposed by law on directors to the extent that the 1298 discretion or powers of the directors are limited by the agreement.

1299 F. The existence or performance of an agreement authorized by this section shall not be a ground for 1300 imposing personal liability on any member for the acts or debts of the corporation even if the agreement 1301 or its performance treats the corporation as if it were a partnership or results in a failure to observe the 1302 corporate formalities otherwise applicable to *the* matters governed by the agreement.

1303 G. Incorporators or subscribers for memberships membership interests may act as members or 1304 directors with respect to an agreement authorized by this section if no members have been elected or 1305 appointed or, in the case of a corporation that has no members, no directors are elected or holding office 1306 when the agreement was made.

1307 H. No action taken pursuant to this section shall change any requirement to file articles or other 1308 documents with the Commission or affect the rights of any creditors or other third parties. 1309

§ 13.1-852.2. Voting agreements.

1310 A. Two or more members entitled to vote may provide for the manner in which they will vote by 1311 signing an agreement for that purpose.

B. A voting agreement created under this section is specifically enforceable.

§ 13.1-853. Requirement for and duties of board of directors.

1314 A. Each Except as provided in an agreement authorized by § 13.1-852.1, each corporation shall have 1315 a board of directors.

B. All corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs 1316 1317 of the corporation managed under the direction of, its board of directors, subject to any limitation set 1318 forth in the articles of incorporation or in an agreement authorized by § 13.1-852.1. 1319

§ 13.1-854. Qualification of directors.

1320 The articles of incorporation or bylaws may prescribe qualifications for directors. A Unless the 1321 articles of incorporation or bylaws so prescribe, a director need not be a resident of this the 1322 Commonwealth or a member of the corporation unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws so 1323 prescribe. 1324

§ 13.1-855. Number and election of directors.

1325 A. A board of directors shall consist of one or more individuals, with the number specified in or 1326 fixed in accordance with the bylaws, or if not specified in or fixed in accordance with the bylaws, with 1327 the number specified in or fixed in accordance with the articles of incorporation. The number of 1328 directors may be increased or decreased from time to time by amendment to the bylaws, unless the 1329 articles of incorporation provide that a change in the number of directors shall be made only by 1330 amendment of the articles of incorporation.

1331 B. The members may adopt a bylaw fixing the number of directors and may direct that such bylaw 1332 not be amended by the board of directors. If a bylaw states a fixed number of directors and the board of 1333 directors has the right to amend the bylaw, it may by amendment to the bylaw increase or decrease the number of directors, but to the extent that the corporation has members with voting privileges only the 1334 1335 members may increase or decrease by more than thirty 30 percent the number of directors last elected by the members or, if the directors' terms are staggered pursuant to § 13.1-858, the number of directors 1336 1337 of all classes immediately following the most recent election of directors by the members.

1338 C. The articles of incorporation or bylaws may establish a variable range for the size of the board of 1339 directors by fixing a minimum and maximum number of directors. If a variable range is established, the 1340 number of directors may be fixed or changed from time to time, within the minimum and maximum, by 1341 the members or the board of directors. However, to the extent that the corporation has members with 1342 voting privileges, only the members may change the range for the size of the board of directors or 1343 change from a fixed to a variable-range size board or vice versa.

1344 D. Directors shall be elected or appointed in the manner provided in the articles of incorporation. If 1345 the corporation has members with voting privileges, directors shall be elected at the first annual 1346 members' meeting and at each annual meeting thereafter unless their terms are staggered under 1347 § 13.1-858.

1348 E. No individual shall be named or elected as a director without *his* prior consent.

1349 § 13.1-857. Terms of directors generally.

1350 A. In the absence of a provision in the articles of incorporation fixing a term of office, the term of

1351 office for a director shall be one year.

1352 B. The directors constituting terms of the initial board of directors shall hold office until the first 1353 annual election of directors or for of a corporation expire at the first members' meeting at which 1354 directors are elected, or if there are no members or the corporation's members do not have voting 1355 rights, at the end of such other period as may be specified in the articles of incorporation. Thereafter, 1356 directors shall be elected or appointed in the manner and for the terms

1357 C. The terms of all other directors expire at the next annual meeting of members following the 1358 directors' election unless their terms are staggered under § 13.1-858 or, if there are no members or the 1359 corporation's members do not have voting rights, as provided in the articles of incorporation. 1360

C D. A decrease in the number of directors does not shorten an incumbent director's term.

1361 D E. In the absence of a provision in the articles of incorporation, the The term of a director elected 1362 by the board of directors to fill a vacancy expires at the next members' meeting at which directors are 1363 elected or, if there are no members or the corporation's members do not have voting rights, as provided 1364 in the articles of incorporation.

E F. Except in the case of ex-officio directors, despite the expiration of a director's term, he a 1365 1366 *director* continues to serve until *his* successor is elected and qualifies or until there is a decrease in the number of directors, if any. 1367

1368 § 13.1-858. Staggered terms of directors.

1369 A. The articles of incorporation may provide for staggering the terms of directors by dividing the 1370 total number of directors into two or three groups, and the terms of office of the several groups need 1371 not be uniform with each group containing one-half or one-third of the total, respectively, as near as 1372 may be. In that event, the terms of directors in the first group expire at the first annual members' 1373 meeting after their election, the terms of directors in the second group expire at the second annual 1374 members' meeting after their election, and the terms of directors in the third group, if any, expire at the 1375 third annual members' meeting after their election. At each annual members' meeting held thereafter, 1376 directors shall be chosen for a term of two years or three years, as the case may be, to succeed those 1377 whose terms are expiring.

1378 B. If the articles of incorporation permit cumulative voting, any provision establishing staggered 1379 terms of directors shall provide that at least three directors shall be elected at each annual members' 1380 meeting. 1381

§ 13.1-859. Resignation of directors.

1382 A. A director may resign at any time by delivering written notice to the board of directors, its 1383 chairman, the president, or the secretary.

1384 B. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective 1385 date time. If a resignation is made effective at the a later date time, the board of directors may fill the 1386 pending vacancy before the effective date time if the board of directors provides that the successor does 1387 not take office until the effective date time.

1388 C. Any person who has resigned as a director of a corporation, or whose name is incorrectly on file 1389 with the Commission as a director of a corporation, may file a statement to that effect with the 1390 Commission.

1391 D. Upon the resignation of a director, a *the* corporation may file an amended annual report with the 1392 Commission indicating the resignation of the director and the successor in office, *if any*.

1393 § 13.1-860. Removal of directors.

1394 A. The members may remove one or more directors with or without cause, unless the articles of 1395 incorporation or bylaws provide that directors may be removed only with cause.

1396 B. If a director is elected by a voting group of members, only the members of that voting group may 1397 participate in the vote to remove him.

1398 C. If cumulative voting is authorized, a director may not be removed if the number of votes 1399 sufficient to elect *him* under cumulative voting is voted against *his* removal. If cumulative voting is not 1400 authorized, unless the articles of incorporation require a greater vote, a director may be removed only 1401 if the number of votes cast to remove him constitutes a majority of the votes entitled to be cast at an 1402 election of directors of the voting group or voting groups by which the director was elected.

1403 D. If a corporation has no members or no members with voting rights, a director may be removed 1404 pursuant to procedures set forth in the articles of incorporation or bylaws, and if none are provided, a 1405 director may be removed by such vote as would suffice for his election.

1406 E. A director may be removed only at a meeting called for the purpose of removing him. The 1407 meeting notice shall state that the purpose<sub>7</sub> or one of the purpose<sub>5</sub> of the meeting is removal of the 1408 director.

1409 F. Upon the removal of a director, the corporation may file an amended annual report with the 1410 Commission indicating the removal of the director and the successor in office, *if any*.

1411 § 13.1-861. Judicial review of elections. SB1286

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1412 Any member or director aggrieved by an election of directors may, after reasonable notice to the 1413 corporation and each director whose election is contested, apply for relief to the circuit court in the 1414 county or city in which the principal office of the corporation is located, or, if none in this the 1415 Commonwealth, where in the county or city in which its registered office is located. The court shall proceed forthwith in a summary way to hear and decide the issues and thereupon to determine the 1416 1417 persons elected or order a new election or grant such other relief as may be equitable. Pending decision, 1418 the court may require the production of any information and may by order restrain any person from 1419 exercising the powers of a director if such relief is equitable.

1420 § 13.1-862. Vacancy on board of directors.

1421 A. Unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, if a vacancy occurs on the board of 1422 directors, including a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number of directors:

1423 1. The members may fill the vacancy; 1424

2. The board of directors may fill the vacancy; or

1425 3. If the directors remaining in office constitute fewer than a quorum of the board, they may fill the 1426 vacancy by the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors remaining in office.

1427 B. Unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, if the vacant office was held by a director 1428 elected by a voting group of members, only the members of that voting group are entitled to vote to fill 1429 the vacancy if it is filled by the members.

1430 C. A vacancy that will occur at a specific later date, by reason of a resignation effective at a later 1431 date under subsection B of § 13.1-859 or otherwise, may be filled before the vacancy occurs but the 1432 new director may not take office until the vacancy occurs.

1433 D. The corporation may file an amended annual report with the Commission indicating the filling of 1434 a vacancy.

§ 13.1-864. Meetings of the board of directors.

A. The board of directors may hold regular or special meetings in or out of this the Commonwealth.

1437 B. Unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise, the board of directors may 1438 permit any or all directors to participate in a regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting 1439 through the use of, any means of communication by which all directors *participating* may 1440 simultaneously hear each other during the meeting. A director participating in a meeting by this means 1441 is deemed to be present in person at the meeting. 1442

§ 13.1-865. Action without meeting of board of directors.

1443 A. Unless Except to the extent that the articles of incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise require 1444 that action by the board of directors be taken at a meeting, action required or permitted by this Act to 1445 be taken at a by the board of directors' meeting directors may be taken without a meeting if the action 1446 is taken by all members of the board. The action shall be evidenced by one or more written consents 1447 stating the action taken, signed by each director either before or after each director signs a consent 1448 describing the action to be taken, and included in the minutes or filed with the corporate records 1449 reflecting the action taken and delivers it to the corporation.

1450 B. Action taken under this section becomes is effective when the last director signs the consent, 1451 unless the consent specifies a different effective date, in which event the action taken is effective as of 1452 the date specified therein provided the consent states the date of execution by each director.

1453 C. A director's consent may be withdrawn by a revocation signed by the director and delivered to 1454 the corporation prior to delivery to the corporation of unrevoked written consents signed by all the 1455 directors.

D. For purposes of this section, a written consent and the signing thereof may be accomplished by 1456 1457 one or more electronic transmissions.

1458 E. A consent signed under this section has the effect of action taken at a meeting vote of the board 1459 of directors and may be described as such in any document. 1460

§ 13.1-866. Notice of board of directors' meetings.

1461 A. Unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws provide otherwise, regular meetings of the board of 1462 directors may be held without notice of the date, time, place, or purpose of the meeting.

1463 B. Special meetings of the board of directors shall be held upon such notice as is prescribed in the 1464 articles of incorporation or bylaws, or when not inconsistent with the articles of incorporation or bylaws, 1465 by resolution of the board of directors. The notice need not describe the purpose of the special meeting 1466 unless required by the articles of incorporation or bylaws.

1467 C. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter Act to the contrary, a notice of the date, time, place 1468 or purpose of a regular or special meeting of the board of directors may be given by a form of 1469 electronic transmission consented to by the director to whom the notice is given. Any such consent of a 1470 director shall be revocable by the director by written notice to the corporation. Any such consent shall 1471 be deemed revoked if (i) the corporation is unable to deliver by electronic transmission two consecutive 1472 notices given by the corporation in accordance with such consent and (ii) such inability becomes known 1473 to the secretary or other person responsible for the giving of notice; provided, however, the inadvertent

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1474 failure to treat such inability as a revocation shall not invalidate any meeting or other action. Notice 1475 given by electronic transmission shall be deemed given: (a) if by facsimile telecommunication, when 1476 directed to a number at which the director has consented to receive notice; (b) if by electronic mail, 1477 when directed to an electronic mail address at which the director has consented to receive notice; (c) if 1478 by a posting on an electronic network together with separate notice to the director of such specific 1479 posting when such notice is directed to an address at which the director has consented to receive notice, 1480 upon the later of such posting or the giving of such separate notice; and (d) if by any other form of 1481 electronic transmission, when consented to by the director. An affidavit of the secretary or other agent 1482 of the corporation that the notice has been given by a form of electronic transmission shall, in the 1483 absence of fraud, be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein.

1484 § 13.1-867. Waiver of notice by director.

1485 A. A director may waive any notice required by this <del>chapter</del> Act, the articles of incorporation, or 1486 bylaws before or after the date and time stated in the notice, and such waiver shall be equivalent to the 1487 giving of such notice. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, the waiver shall be in writing, 1488 signed by the director entitled to the notice, and filed with the minutes or corporate records.

1489 B. A director's attendance at or participation in a meeting waives any required notice to him of the 1490 meeting unless the director at the beginning of the meeting, or promptly upon his arrival, objects to 1491 holding the meeting or transacting business at the meeting and does not thereafter vote for or assent to 1492 action taken at the meeting.

1493 § 13.1-868. Quorum and voting by directors.

1494 A. Unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws require a greater or lesser number for the 1495 transaction of all business or any particular business, or unless otherwise specifically provided in this 1496 Act, a quorum of a board of directors consists of:

1497 1. A majority of the fixed number of directors if the corporation has a fixed board size; or

1498 2. A majority of the number of directors prescribed, or if no number is prescribed, the number in 1499 office immediately before the meeting begins, if the corporation has a variable-range size board.

1500 B. The articles of incorporation or bylaws may authorize a quorum of a board of directors to consist 1501 of no fewer than one-third of the fixed or prescribed number of directors determined by under 1502 subsection A of this section.

1503 C. If a quorum is present when a vote is taken, the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors 1504 present is the act of the board of directors unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws require the vote 1505 of a greater number of directors.

1506 D. A director who is present at a meeting of the board of directors or a committee of the board of 1507 directors when corporate action is taken is deemed to have assented to the action taken unless: (i) he

1508 1. The director objects at the beginning of the meeting, or promptly upon his arrival, to holding it or 1509 transacting specified business at the meeting; or (ii) he 1510

- 2. *He* votes against, or abstains from, the action taken.
- E. Except as provided in § 13.1-852.1, a director shall not vote by proxy.

1512 F. Whenever this chapter Act requires the board of directors to take any action or to recommend or 1513 approve any proposed corporate act, such action, recommendation or approval shall not be required if 1514 the proposed action or corporate act is adopted by the unanimous consent of members. 1515

§ 13.1-869. Committees.

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1516 A. Unless the articles of incorporation or the bylaws provide otherwise, a board of directors may 1517 create one or more committees and appoint members of the board of directors to serve on them. Each 1518 committee may shall have two or more members, who serve at the pleasure of the board of directors.

1519 B. The creation of a committee and appointment of directors to it shall be approved by the greater 1520 number of (i) a majority of all the directors in office when the action is taken, or (ii) the number of 1521 directors required by the articles of incorporation or bylaws to take action under § 13.1-868.

1522 C. Sections 13.1-864 through 13.1-868, which govern meetings, action without meetings, notice and 1523 waiver of notice, and quorum and voting requirements of the board of directors, apply to committees 1524 and their members as well.

1525 D. To the extent specified by the board of directors or in the articles of incorporation or bylaws, 1526 each committee may exercise the authority of the board of directors under § 13.1-853, except that a 1527 committee may not:

1528 1. Approve or recommend to members action that this Act requires to be approved by members, 1529 provided that the executive committee of the board of directors may exercise the authority of the board 1530 of directors to approve any amendment of the articles of incorporation if so authorized by the articles of 1531 incorporation;

- 1532 2. Fill vacancies on the board or on any of its committees;
- 1533 3. Amend *the* articles of incorporation pursuant to § 13.1-885;
- 1534 4. Adopt, amend, or repeal the bylaws; or

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1535 5. Approve a plan of merger not requiring member approval.

1536 E. The creation of, delegation of authority to, or action by a committee does not alone constitute 1537 compliance by a director with the standards of conduct described in § 13.1-870.

1538  $\overline{F}$ . The board of directors may appoint one or more directors as alternate members of any committee 1539 to replace any absent or disgualified member during the member's absence or disgualification. Unless 1540 the articles of incorporation, the bylaws, or the resolution creating the committee provides otherwise, in 1541 the event of the absence or disqualification of a member of a committee, the member or members 1542 present at any meeting and not disqualified from voting may unanimously appoint another director to 1543 act in place of the absent or disqualified member. 1544

§ 13.1-870. General standards of conduct for directors.

1545 A. A director shall discharge his duties as a director, including his duties as a member of a 1546 committee, in accordance with his good faith business judgment of the best interests of the corporation.

1547 B. Unless he a director has knowledge or information concerning the matter in question that makes 1548 reliance unwarranted, a director is entitled to rely on information, opinions, reports or statements, 1549 including financial statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by:

1550 1. One or more officers or employees of the corporation whom the director believes, in good faith, to 1551 be reliable and competent in the matters presented;

1552 2. Legal counsel, public accountants, or other persons as to matters the director believes, in good 1553 faith, are within the person's professional or expert competence; or

1554 3. A committee of the board of directors of which he the director is not a member if the director 1555 believes, in good faith, that the committee merits confidence.

1556 C. A director is not liable for any action taken as a director, or any failure to take any action, if he 1557 performed the duties of *his* office in compliance with this section. 1558

D. A person alleging a violation of this section has the burden of proving the violation.

§ 13.1-870.1. Limitation on liability of officers and directors; exception.

1560 A. Except as otherwise provided in this section, in *In* any proceeding brought by or in the right of a 1561 corporation or brought by or on behalf of members of the corporation, the damages assessed against an 1562 officer or director arising out of a single transaction, occurrence, or course of conduct shall not exceed 1563 the lesser of:

1564 1. The monetary amount, including the elimination of liability, specified in the articles of 1565 incorporation or, if approved by the members, in the bylaws as a limitation on or elimination of the 1566 liability of the officer or director; or

1567 2. The greater of (i) \$100,000, or (ii) the amount of the cash compensation received by the officer or 1568 director from the corporation during the twelve 12 months immediately preceding the act or omission 1569 for which liability was imposed.

1570 B. In any proceeding against an officer or director who receives compensation from a corporation 1571 exempt from income taxation under § 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code for his services as such, the 1572 damages assessed arising out of a single transaction, occurrence or course of conduct shall not exceed 1573 the amount of compensation received by the officer or director from the corporation during the twelve 1574 12 months immediately preceding the act or omission for which liability was imposed. An officer or 1575 director who serves such an exempt corporation without compensation for *his* services shall not be liable 1576 for damages in any such proceeding.

1577 C. The liability of an officer or director shall not be limited as provided in this section if the officer 1578 or director engaged in willful misconduct or a knowing violation of the criminal law.

1579 D. No limitation on or elimination of liability adopted pursuant to this section may be affected by 1580 any amendment of the articles of incorporation or bylaws with respect to any act or omission occurring 1581 before such amendment.

E. 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, in any proceeding against an officer or director 1582 1583 who receives compensation from a community association for his services, the damages assessed arising 1584 out of a single transaction, occurrence or course of conduct shall not exceed the amount of 1585 compensation received by the officer or director from the association during the twelve 12 months 1586 immediately preceding the act or omission for which liability was imposed. An officer or director who serves such an association without compensation for his services shall not be liable for damages in any 1587 1588 such proceeding.

1589 2. The liability of an officer or director shall not be limited as provided in this subsection if the 1590 officer or director engaged in willful misconduct or a knowing violation of the criminal law.

1591 3. As used in this subsection, "community association" shall mean a corporation incorporated under 1592 this chapter which Act that owns or has under its care, custody or control real estate subject to a 1593 recorded declaration of covenants which obligates a person, by virtue of ownership of specific real 1594 estate, to be a member of the incorporated association. 1595

§ 13.1-870.2. Limitation on liability of officers and directors; additional exception.

1596 A. As used in this section, "community association" shall mean an unincorporated association or

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1597 corporation which owns or has under its care, custody or control real estate subject to a recorded1598 declaration of covenants which obligates a person, by virtue of ownership or specific real estate, to be a1599 member of the unincorporated association or corporation.

B. In any proceeding against an officer or director who receives compensation from a community association for *his* services as such, the damages assessed arising out of a single transaction, occurrence or course of conduct shall not exceed the amount of compensation received by the officer or director from the association during the twelve 12 months immediately preceding the act or omission for which liability was imposed. An officer or director who serves such an association without compensation for *his* services shall not be liable for damages in any such proceeding.

1606 C. The liability of an officer or director shall not be limited as provided in this section if the officer 1607 or director engaged in willful misconduct or a knowing violation of the criminal law.

**1608** § 13.1-871. Director conflict of interests.

A. A conflict of interests transaction is a transaction with the corporation in which a director of the corporation has a direct or indirect personal an interest that precludes him from being a disinterested director. A conflict of interests transaction is not voidable by the corporation solely because of the director's interest in the transaction if any one of the following is true:

1613 1. The material facts of the transaction and the director's interest were disclosed or known to the 1614 board of directors or a committee of the board of directors and the board of directors or committee 1615 authorized, approved or ratified the transaction; <del>or</del>

1616 2. The material facts of the transaction and the director's interest were disclosed to the members 1617 entitled to vote and they authorized, approved or ratified the transaction; or

**1618** 3. The transaction was fair to the corporation.

B. For purposes of this section, a director of the corporation has an indirect personal interest in a transaction if (i) another entity in which he has a material financial interest or in which he is a general partner is a party to the transaction or (ii) another entity of which he is a director, officer or trustee is a party to the transaction and the transaction is or should be considered by the board of directors of the corporation. A vote or consent of an entity in which the director has an interest described in the preceding sentence is deemed to be a vote or consent of the director for purposes of this section.

1625 C. For purposes of subdivision A 1 of subsection A of this section, a conflict of interests transaction 1626 is authorized, approved, or ratified if it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the *disinterested* 1627 directors on the board of directors, or on the committee, who have no direct or indirect personal interest 1628 in the A transaction, but a transaction may shall not be authorized, approved, or ratified under this 1629 section by a single director. If a majority of the *disinterested* directors who have no direct or indirect 1630 personal interest in the transaction vote to authorize, approve or ratify the transaction, a quorum is 1631 present for the purpose of taking action under this section. The presence of, or a vote cast by, a director 1632 with a direct or indirect personal interest in the transaction who is not disinterested does not affect the 1633 validity of any action taken under subdivision A 1 of subsection A of this section if the transaction is 1634 otherwise authorized, approved or ratified as provided in that subsection.

 $\oplus$  C. For purposes of subdivision A 2 of subsection A of this section, a conflict of interests 1635 1636 transaction is authorized, approved, or ratified if it receives the vote of a majority of the votes entitled 1637 to be cast by members whether or not present, that may be counted under this subsection. A The votes controlled by a director who has a direct or indirect personal interest in the transaction may not is not 1638 1639 disinterested may not be counted in a vote of members to determine whether to authorize, approve, or 1640 ratify a conflict of interests transaction under subdivision A 2 of subsection A of this section. His vote, 1641 The director's votes, however, may be counted in determining whether the transaction is approved under 1642 other sections of this Act. A majority of the members, whether or not present, who that are entitled to 1643 be counted in a vote on the transaction under this subsection constitutes a quorum for the purpose of 1644 taking action under this section.

1645 § 13.1-871.1. Business opportunities.

A. A director's taking advantage, directly or indirectly, of a business opportunity may not be the subject of equitable relief or give rise to an award of damages or other sanctions against the director in a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation on the ground that such opportunity should have first been offered to the corporation, if before becoming legally obligated respecting the opportunity the director brings it to the attention of the corporation and:

1651 1. Directors' action disclaiming the corporation's interest in the opportunity is taken in compliance 1652 with the procedures set forth in subdivision A 1 of § 13.1-871, as if the decision being made concerned 1653 a director's conflict of interests transaction; or

1654 2. Members' action disclaiming the corporation's interest in the opportunity is taken in compliance
1655 with the procedures set forth in subdivision A 2 of § 13.1-871, as if the decision being made concerned
1656 a director's conflict of interests transaction.

**1657** B. In any proceeding seeking equitable relief or other remedies, based upon an alleged improper

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1658 taking advantage of a business opportunity by a director, the fact that the director did not employ one 1659 of the procedures described in subsection A before taking advantage of the opportunity shall not create 1660 an inference that the opportunity should have been first presented to the corporation or alter the burden 1661 of proof otherwise applicable to establish that the director breached a duty to the corporation in the 1662 circumstances.

1663 § 13.1-872. Required officers.

1664 A. A Except as provided in an agreement authorized by § 13.1-852.1, a corporation shall have such 1665 officers with such titles and duties as shall be stated in the bylaws or in a resolution of the board of directors that is not inconsistent with the bylaws and as may be necessary to enable it to execute 1666 documents that comply with subsection F of § 13.1-804. 1667

B. A duly appointed The board of directors may elect individuals to fill one or more offices of the 1668 corporation. An officer may appoint one or more officers or assistant officers if authorized by the 1669 1670 bylaws or the board of directors.

1671 C. The secretary or any other officer as designated in the bylaws or by resolution of the board shall 1672 have responsibility for preparing and maintaining custody of minutes of the directors' and members' 1673 meetings and for authenticating records of the corporation.

1674 D. The same individual may simultaneously hold more than one office in the corporation.

§ 13.1-874. Resignation and removal of officers.

1676 A. An officer may resign at any time by delivering notice to the corporation. A resignation is 1677 effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective date time. If a 1678 resignation is made effective at a later date and time, the corporation accepts the future effective date, it 1679 may fill the pending vacancy before the effective date time if the successor does not take office until the 1680 effective date time.

B. A board of directors may remove any officer at any time with or without cause and any officer or 1681 1682 assistant officer, if appointed by another officer, may likewise be removed by such officer. Election or 1683 appointment of an officer shall not of itself create any contract rights in the officer or the corporation. 1684 An officer's removal does not affect such officer's contract rights, if any, with the corporation. An 1685 officer's resignation does not affect the corporation's contract rights, if any, with the officer.

1686 C. Any person who has resigned as an officer of a corporation, or whose name is incorrectly on file 1687 with the Commission as an officer of a corporation, may file a statement to that effect with the 1688 Commission.

1689 D. Upon the resignation or removal of an officer, the corporation may file an amended annual report 1690 with the Commission indicating the resignation or removal of the officer and the successor in office, if 1691 any. 1692

§ 13.1-875. Definitions.

In this article:

1694 "Articles of incorporation" includes the bylaws of any corporation created by Act of the General 1695 Assembly.

1696 "Corporation" includes any domestic corporation and any domestic or foreign predecessor entity of a 1697 domestic corporation in a merger or other transaction in which the predecessor's existence ceased upon 1698 consummation of the transaction.

"Director" or "officer" means an individual who is or was a director or officer, respectively, of a 1699 1700 corporation or an individual who, while a director or officer of a the corporation, is or was serving at 1701 the corporation's request as a director, officer, *manager*, partner, trustee, employee, or agent of another 1702 foreign or domestic corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee 1703 benefit plan, or other enterprise entity. A director or officer is considered to be serving an employee 1704 benefit plan at the corporation's request if his such person's duties to the corporation also impose duties on, or otherwise involve services by, him such person to the plan or to participants in or beneficiaries of the plan. "Director" or "officer" includes, unless the context requires otherwise, the estate or personal 1705 1706 1707 representatives representative of a director or officer. 1708

"Expenses" includes counsel fees.

1709 "Liability" means the obligation to pay a judgment, settlement, penalty, fine, (including an any excise 1710 tax assessed with respect to an employee benefit plan, or reasonable expenses incurred with respect to a 1711 proceeding.

1712 "Official capacity" means:, (i) when used with respect to a director, the office of director in a 1713 corporation; or (ii) when used with respect to an individual other than a director officer, as contemplated 1714 in § 13.1-881, the office in a corporation held by the officer or the employment or agency relationship undertaken by the employee or agent on behalf of the corporation. "Official capacity" does not include 1715 1716 service for any other foreign or domestic corporation or any partnership, joint venture, trust, employee 1717 benefit plan, or other enterprise entity.

1718 "Party" includes means an individual who was, is, or is threatened to be made a named defendant or 1719 respondent in a proceeding.

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- 1720 "Proceeding" means any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit, or proceeding, whether civil, 1721 criminal, administrative, *arbitrative*, or investigative and whether formal or informal.
- 1722 § 13.1-876. Authority to indemnify.

1723 A. Except as provided in subsection D of this section, a corporation may indemnify an individual 1724 made a party to a proceeding because he the individual is or was a director against liability incurred in 1725 the proceeding if *the director*:

1726 1. He conducted Conducted himself in good faith;

1727 2. He believed Believed:

a. In the case of conduct in his official capacity with the corporation, that his conduct was in the its 1728 1729 best interests of the corporation; and

1730 b. In all other cases, that his conduct was at least not opposed to the its best interests of the 1731 corporation; and

- 1732 3. In the case of any criminal proceeding, that he had no reasonable cause to believe that his 1733 conduct was unlawful.
- 1734 B. A director's conduct with respect to an employee benefit plan for a purpose he believed to be in 1735 the interests of the participants in and beneficiaries of the plan is conduct that satisfies the requirement 1736 of item b of subdivision A 2 bof subsection A of this section.

1737 C. The termination of a proceeding by judgment, order, settlement or conviction, or upon a plea of 1738 nolo contendere or its equivalent, is not, of itself determinative that the director did not meet the 1739 *relevant* standard of conduct described in this section.

1740 D. AUnless ordered by a court under subsection C of § 13.1-79.1, a corporation may not indemnify 1741 a director under this section:

- 1742 1. In connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation in which the director was 1743 adjudged liable to the corporation except for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the 1744 proceeding if it is determined that the director has met the relevant standard under subsection A; or
- 1745 2. In connection with any other proceeding charging improper personal benefit to him the director, 1746 whether or not involving action in *his* official capacity, in which *he* was adjudged liable on the basis 1747 that personal benefit was improperly received by him.
- 1748 E. Indemnification permitted under this section in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of 1749 the corporation is limited to reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the proceeding. 1750

§ 13.1-877. Mandatory indemnification.

1751 Unless limited by its articles of incorporation, a corporation shall indemnify a director who entirely 1752 prevails in the defense of any proceeding to which he was a party because he is or was a director of the 1753 corporation against reasonable expenses incurred by *him* in connection with the proceeding. 1754

§ 13.1-878. Advance for expenses.

1755 A. A corporation may pay for or reimburse the reasonable expenses incurred by a director who is a 1756 party to a proceeding in advance of final disposition of the proceeding if:

- 1757 1. The director furnishes the corporation a written statement of his good faith belief that he has met 1758 the standard of conduct described in § 13.1-876;
- 1759 2. The director furnishes the corporation a written undertaking, executed personally or on *his* behalf, 1760 to repay the advance if any funds advanced if he is not entitled to mandatory indemnification under 1761 § 13.1-877 and it is ultimately determined that he did not meet the under § 13.1-879.1 or 13.1-880 that 1762 he has not met the relevant standard of conduct; and

1763 3. A determination is made that the facts then known to those making the determination would not 1764 preclude indemnification under this article.

- 1765 B. The undertaking required by subdivision A 2 of subsection A of this section shall be an unlimited 1766 general obligation of the director but need not be secured and may be accepted without reference to 1767 financial ability to make repayment.
- 1768 C. Determinations and authorizations Authorizations of payments under this section shall be made in 1769 the manner specified in § 13.1-880 by:
- 1770 1. The board of directors:
- 1771 a. If there are two or more disinterested directors, by a majority vote of all the disinterested 1772 directors, a majority of whom shall for such purpose constitute a quorum, or by a majority of the 1773 members of a committee of two or more disinterested directors appointed by such a vote; or
- 1774 b. If there are fewer than two disinterested directors, by the vote necessary for action by the board 1775 in accordance with subsection C of § 13.1-868, in which authorization directors who do not qualify as 1776 disinterested directors may participate; or
- 1777 2. The members, but any membership interest under the control of a director who at the time does 1778 not qualify as a disinterested director may not be voted on the authorization.
- 1779 § 13.1-879.1. Court orders for advances, reimbursement or indemnification.
- 1780 A. An individual who is made a party to a proceeding because he is or was a director of a the

1781 corporation may apply to a court for an order directing the corporation to make advances or 1782 reimbursement for expenses, or to provide indemnification. Such application may be made to the court conducting the proceeding or to another court of competent jurisdiction. 1783

1784 B. The court shall order the corporation to make advances and/or, reimbursement, or both, for 1785 expenses or to provide indemnification if it determines that the director is entitled to such advances, 1786 reimbursement or indemnification and shall also order the corporation to pay the director's reasonable 1787 expenses incurred to obtain the order.

1788 C. With respect to a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation, the court may (i) order 1789 indemnification of the director to the extent of his the director's reasonable expenses if it determines 1790 that, considering all the relevant circumstances, the director is entitled to indemnification even though he 1791 was adjudged liable to the corporation and (ii) also order the corporation to pay the director's reasonable 1792 expenses incurred to obtain the order of indemnification.

1793 D. Neither (i) the failure of the corporation, including its board of directors, its independent legal 1794 counsel and its shareholders members, to have made an independent determination prior to the 1795 commencement of any action permitted by this section that the applying director is entitled to receive 1796 advances and/or, reimbursement, or indemnification both, nor (ii) the determination by the corporation, 1797 including its board of directors, its independent legal counsel and its shareholders members, that the 1798 applying director is not entitled to receive advances and/or reimbursement or indemnification shall create 1799 a presumption to that effect or otherwise of itself be a defense to that director's application for advances 1800 for expenses, reimbursement or indemnification. 1801

§ 13.1-880. Determination and authorization of indemnification.

1802 A. A corporation may not indemnify a director under § 13.1-876 unless authorized in the specific 1803 case after a determination has been made that indemnification of the director is permissible in the 1804 eircumstances because he has met the relevant standard of conduct set forth in § 13.1-876. 1805

B. The determination shall be made:

1806 1. By If there are two or more disinterested directors, by the board of directors by a majority vote 1807 of a quorum consisting of directors not at the time parties to the proceeding all the disinterested 1808 directors, a majority of whom shall for such purpose constitute a quorum, or by a majority of the 1809 members of a committee of two or more disinterested directors appointed by such a vote;

1810 2. If a quorum cannot be obtained under subdivision 1 of this subsection, by majority vote of a 1811 committee duly designated by the board of directors (in which designation directors who are parties may 1812 participate), consisting solely of two or more directors not at the time parties to the proceeding; 1813

3. By special legal counsel:

1814 a. Selected by the board of directors or its committee in the manner prescribed in subdivision 1 or 2 1815 of this subsection; or

1816 b. If a quorum of the board of directors cannot be obtained under subdivision 1 of this subsection 1817 and a committee cannot be designated under subdivision 2 of this subsection, selected by majority vote 1818 of there are fewer than two disinterested directors, selected by the full board of directors, in which 1819 selection directors who are parties do not qualify as disinterested directors may participate; or

1820 4 3. By the members, but directors who are membership interests under the control of a director who 1821 at the time parties to the proceeding does not qualify as a disinterested director may not vote be voted 1822 on the determination.

1823 C. Authorization of indemnification and evaluation as to reasonableness of expenses shall be made in 1824 the same manner as the determination that indemnification is permissible, except that if there are fewer 1825 than two disinterested directors or if the determination is made by special legal counsel, authorization of 1826 indemnification and evaluation as to reasonableness of expenses shall be made by those entitled under 1827 subdivision 3 of subsection B of this section 2 to select counsel.

1828 § 13.1-881. Indemnification of officers. 1829

Unless limited by a corporation's articles of incorporation:

1830 1. An officer of the corporation who is not a director is entitled to mandatory indemnification under 1831 § 13.1-877, and is entitled to apply for court-ordered indemnification under § 13.1-879.1, in each case to 1832 the same extent as a director; and

1833 2. The corporation may indemnify and advance expenses under this article to an officer, employee, 1834 or agent of the corporation who is not a director to the same extent as to a director.

§ 13.1-882. Insurance.

1835

1836 A corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of an individual who is or was a director, or officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or who, while a director or officer of the 1837 1838 corporation, is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, partner, trustee, 1839 employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, *limited liability company*, partnership, 1840 joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise entity, against liability asserted against or 1841 incurred by him such person in that capacity or arising out of his from his status as a director, or 1842 officer, employee or agent, whether or not the corporation would have power to indemnify him against

1843 the same liability under § 13.1-876 or § 13.1-877.

1844 § 13.1-883. Application of article.

1845 A. Unless the articles of incorporation or bylaws expressly provide otherwise, any authorization of 1846 indemnification in the articles of incorporation or bylaws shall not be deemed to prevent the corporation 1847 from providing the indemnity permitted or mandated by this article.

1848 B. Any corporation shall have power to make any further indemnity, including indemnity with 1849 respect to a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation, and to make additional provision for 1850 advances and reimbursement of expenses, to any director, or officer, employer or agent that may be 1851 authorized by the articles of incorporation or any bylaw made by the members or any resolution 1852 adopted, before or after the event, by the members, except an indemnity against (i) his such person's 1853 willful misconduct, or (ii) a knowing violation of the criminal law. Unless the articles of incorporation, 1854 or any such bylaw or resolution expressly provides otherwise, any determination as to the right to any 1855 further indemnity shall be made in accordance with subsection B of § 13.1-880 B. Each such indemnity 1856 may continue as to a person who has ceased to have the capacity referred to above and may inure to the 1857 benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

1858 C. The provisions of this article and Article 8 ( $\S$  13.1-\$53 et seq.) of this chapter Act shall apply to 1859 the same extent to any cooperative organized under the Code of Virginia.

1860 D. No right provided to any person pursuant to this section may be reduced or eliminated by any 1861 amendment of the articles of incorporation or bylaws with respect to any act or omission occurring 1862 before such amendment.

1863 E. This article does not limit a corporation's power to pay or reimburse expenses incurred by a 1864 director or an officer in connection with his appearance as a witness in a proceeding at a time when he 1865 is not a party.

1866 F. This article does not limit a corporation's power to indemnify, advance expenses to, or provide or 1867 maintain insurance on behalf of an employee or agent who is not a director or officer. 1868

§ 13.1-885. Amendment of articles of incorporation by directors.

1869 A. Where there are no members, or no members having voting rights, an amendment shall be 1870 adopted at a meeting of the board of directors upon receiving the vote of at least two-thirds of the 1871 directors in office. The board may adopt one or more amendments at any one meeting.

1872 B. Unless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, a corporation's board of directors may 1873 adopt one or more amendments to the corporation's articles of incorporation without member action:

1874 1. To delete the names and addresses of the initial directors:

1875 2. To delete the name and address of the initial registered agent or registered office, if a statement 1876 of change is on file with the Commission;

1877 3. To add, delete, or change a geographic attribution for the name; or

1878 4. To make any other change expressly permitted by this Act to be made without member action.

1879 § 13.1-886. Amendment of articles of incorporation by directors and members.

1880 A. Where there are members having voting rights, a corporation's board of directors may propose one 1881 or more amendments to except where member approval of an amendment of the articles of incorporation 1882 for submission to the members.

1883 B. For the amendment to is not required by this Act, an amendment to the articles of incorporation 1884 shall be adopted in the following manner:

1885 1. The proposed amendment shall be adopted by the board of directors shall recommend;

1886 2. After adopting the proposed amendment, the board of directors shall submit the amendment to the 1887 members for their approval. The board of directors shall also transmit to the members a 1888 recommendation that the members approve the amendment, unless the board of directors determines 1889 makes a determination that because of conflict conflicts of interests interest or other special 1890 circumstances it should not make no such a recommendation and communicates, in which case the 1891 board of directors shall transmit to the members the basis for its that determination to the members with 1892 the amendment; and

1893 23. The members entitled to vote on the amendment shall approve the amendment as provided in 1894 subsection  $\mathbf{E}$  of this section D. 1895

*CB.* The board of directors may condition its submission of the proposed amendment on any basis.

1896  $\oplus C$ . The corporation shall notify each member entitled to vote of the proposed members' meeting in 1897 accordance with § 13.1-842. The notice of meeting shall also state that the purpose, or one of the 1898 purposes, of the meeting is to consider the proposed amendment and contain or be accompanied by a 1899 copy of the amendment.

 $\stackrel{\bullet}{E}D$ . Unless this chapter Act or the board of directors, acting pursuant to subsection  $\stackrel{\bullet}{C}$  of this section 1900 1901 B, requires a greater vote, the amendment to be adopted shall be approved by each voting group entitled 1902 to vote on the <del>proposed</del> amendment by more than two-thirds of all the votes cast on the amendment by 1903 that voting group at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting group exists. The articles of

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1904 incorporation may provide for a greater or lesser vote than that provided for in this subsection or a vote 1905 by separate voting groups so long as the vote provided for is not less than a majority of all the votes 1906 cast on the amendment by each voting group entitled to vote on the amendment at a meeting at which a 1907 quorum of the voting group exists.

1908 § 13.1-887.1. Amendment prior to organization.

1909 When a corporation has not yet completed its organization and, its board of directors or 1910 incorporators, in the event that there are is no members or board of directors, may adopt one or more 1911 amendments to the corporation's articles of incorporation may be adopted by a majority of the 1912 incorporators.

1913 § 13.1-888. Articles of amendment.

1914 A. A corporation amending its articles of incorporation shall file with the Commission articles of amendment setting forth: 1915 1916

1. The name of the corporation;

1917 2. The text of each amendment adopted or the information required by subdivision L 5 of § 13.1-804; 1918 1919

3. The date of each amendment's adoption; 1920

4. If an amendment was adopted:

1921 a. By the incorporators, a statement to that effect, including the reason director approval and member 1922 approval were not required, and a statement of the fact that the amendment was approved by a majority 1923 of the incorporators; and

1924 b. By by the incorporators or the board of directors without member approval, a statement to that 1925 effect that the amendment was duly approved by the incorporators or by the board of directors, as the 1926 case may be, including the reason member approval was not required, and a statement of the fact that 1927 the amendment received the vote of at least two-thirds of the directors in office; 1928

5. If an amendment was approved by the members, either:

a. A statement that the amendment was adopted by unanimous consent of the members; or

1930 b. A statement that the amendment was proposed by the board of directors and submitted to the 1931 members in accordance with this Act and a statement of:

1932 (1) The existence of a quorum of each voting group entitled to vote separately on the amendment; and 1933

1934 (2) Either the total number of votes cast for and against the amendment by each voting group 1935 entitled to vote separately on the amendment or the total number of undisputed votes cast for the 1936 amendment by each voting group and a statement that the number cast for the amendment by each 1937 voting group was sufficient for approval by that voting group.

1938 B. If the Commission finds that the articles of amendment comply with the requirements of law and 1939 that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of amendment. 1940

§ 13.1-889. Restated articles of incorporation.

1941 A. A corporation's board of directors may restate its articles of incorporation at any time with or 1942 without member action approval.

1943 B. The restatement may include one or more *new* amendments to the articles. If the restatement 1944 includes an *a new* amendment requiring member approval, it shall be adopted and approved as provided in § 13.1-886. If the restatement includes an amendment that does not require member approval, it shall 1945 1946 be adopted as provided in § 13.1-885.

1947 C. If the board of directors submits a restatement for member action approval, the corporation shall 1948 notify each member entitled to vote of the proposed members' meeting in accordance with § 13.1-842. 1949 The notice shall also state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the 1950 proposed restatement and contain or be accompanied by a copy of the restatement that identifies any 1951 *new* amendment it would make in the articles.

1952 D. A corporation restating its articles of incorporation shall file with the Commission articles of 1953 restatement setting forth the name of the corporation and the text of the restated articles of incorporation 1954 together with a certificate setting forth: 1955

1. The name of the corporation immediately prior to restatement;

1956 2. The date of Whether the restatement's adoption restatement contains a new amendment to the 1957 articles:

1958 3. Whether the restatement contains an amendment to the The text of the restated articles and, if it 1959 does not, that the board of directors adopted the restatement of incorporation or amended and restated 1960 articles of incorporation, as the case may be; 1961

4. Information required by subdivision L 5 of § 13.1-804;

1962 5. The date of the restatement's adoption:

1963 6. If the restatement does not contain a new amendment to the articles, that the board of directors 1964 adopted the restatement;

1965 7. If the restatement contains an *a new* amendment to the articles not requiring member approval, the 1966 information required by subdivision A 4 of § 13.1-888; and

1967 58. If the restatement contains an *a new* amendment to the articles requiring member approval, the 1968 information required by subdivision A 5 of § 13.1-888.

1969 E. If the Commission finds that the articles of restatement comply with the requirements of law and 1970 that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of restatement. When the certificate of 1971 restatement is effective the restated articles of incorporation or amended and restated articles of 1972 incorporation supersede the original articles of incorporation and all amendments to them.

1973 F. The Commission may certify restated articles of incorporation or amended and restated articles of 1974 incorporation as the articles of incorporation currently in effect without including the certificate 1975 information required by subsection D of this section.

1976 § 13.1-891. Effect of amendment of articles of incorporation.

1977 An amendment of to the articles of incorporation does not affect a cause of action existing in favor 1978 of or against the corporation, a proceeding to which the corporation is a party, or the existing rights of 1979 persons other than members of the corporation. An amendment changing a corporation's name does not 1980 abate a proceeding brought by or against the corporation in its former name.

1981 § 13.1-892. Amendment of bylaws by board of directors or members.

1982 A corporation's board of directors may amend or repeal the corporation's bylaws except to the extent 1983 that:

1984 1. The articles of incorporation or this chapter § 13.1-893 reserves this that power exclusively to the 1985 members; or

1986 2. The members in *repealing*, adopting, or amending <del>particular</del> <del>bylaws</del> <del>provide</del> *a bylaw* expressly 1987 *provide* that the board of directors may not amend  $\Theta$ , repeal, or reinstate that bylaw.

1988 § 13.1-893. Bylaw provisions increasing quorum or voting requirements for directors.

1989 A. A bylaw that fixes increases a greater quorum or voting requirement for the board of directors 1990 may be amended or repealed:

1991 1. If originally adopted by the members, only by the members, unless the bylaws otherwise provide; 1992 or

1993 2. If originally adopted by the board of directors, either by the members or by the board of directors. 1994 B. A bylaw adopted or amended by the members that fixes increases a greater quorum or voting 1995 requirement for the board of directors may provide that it may shall be amended or repealed only by a 1996 specified vote of either the members or the board of directors.

1997 C. Action by the board of directors under subdivision 2 of subsection A of this section to adopt or 1998 amend or repeal a bylaw that changes the quorum or voting requirement applicable to meetings of the 1999 board of directors shall meet be effective only if it meets the quorum requirement and be is adopted by 2000 the vote required to take action under the quorum and voting requirement then in effect.

2001 § 13.1-893.1. Definitions.

2002 As used in this article:

2003 "Merger" means a business combination pursuant to § 13.1-894.

2004 "Party to a merger" means any domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity that will merge 2005 under a plan of merger.

2006 "Survivor" in a merger means the domestic or foreign corporation or the eligible entity into which 2007 one or more other domestic or foreign corporations or eligible entities are merged. A survivor of a 2008 merger may predate the merger or be created by the merger.

2009 § 13.1-894. Merger.

2010 A. One or more *domestic* corporations may merge into another corporation if the articles of 2011 incorporation of each of them could lawfully contain all the corporate powers and purposes of all of 2012 them with one or more domestic or foreign corporations or eligible entities pursuant to a plan of 2013 merger, or two or more foreign corporations or domestic or foreign eligible entities may merge into a 2014 new domestic corporation to be created in the merger in the manner provided in this Act. The board of directors of each survivor may be or, pursuant to subdivision C 5, become a stock or nonstock 2015 2016 corporation shall adopt and its members, if required by § 13.1-896, shall approve a plan of merger. 2017

B. The plan of merger shall set forth:

2018 1. The name of each corporation planning to merge, and the name of the surviving corporation into 2019 which each other corporation plans to merge; and

2020 2. The terms and conditions of the merger A foreign corporation or a foreign eligible entity may be 2021 a party to a merger with a domestic corporation or may be created pursuant to the terms of the plan of 2022 merger only if the merger is permitted by the laws under which the foreign corporation or eligible entity is organized or by which it is governed. 2023 2024

C. The plan of merger may set forth shall include:

2025 1. Amendments to, or a restatement of, the articles of incorporation of the surviving corporation The 2026 name of each domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity that will merge and the name of the SB1286

2027 domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity that will be the survivor of the merger; and

2028 2. Other provisions relating to the merger

2029 The terms and conditions of the merger;

2030 3. The manner and basis of converting the membership interests of each merging domestic or foreign 2031 corporation and eligible interests of each domestic or foreign eligible entity into membership interests, 2032 eligible interests or other securities, obligations, rights to acquire membership interests, eligible interests 2033 or other securities, cash or other property, or any combination of the foregoing;

2034 4. The manner and basis of converting any rights to acquire the membership interests of each 2035 merging domestic or foreign corporation and eligible interests of each merging domestic or foreign 2036 eligible entity into membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, obligations, rights to 2037 acquire membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, cash or other property, or any 2038 combination of the foregoing;

2039 5. The articles of incorporation of any domestic or foreign corporation or stock corporation or the 2040 organic document of any domestic or foreign unincorporated entity to be created by the merger or, if a 2041 new domestic or foreign corporation or stock corporation or unincorporated entity is not to be created 2042 by the merger, any amendments to the survivor's articles of incorporation or organic document; and

2043 6. Any other provisions required by the laws under which any party to the merger is organized or by 2044 which it is governed or required by the articles of incorporation or organic document of any such party.

2045 D. Terms of a plan of merger may be made dependent on facts objectively ascertainable outside the 2046 plan in accordance with subsection L of § 13.1-804.

2047 E. The plan of merger may also include a provision that the plan may be amended prior to the effective date of the certificate of merger, but if the members of a domestic corporation that is a party 2048 to the merger are required or permitted to vote on the plan, the plan must provide that, subsequent to 2049 2050 approval of the plan by such members, the plan may not be amended to change:

2051 1. The amount or kind of membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, obligations, 2052 rights to acquire membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, cash, or other property to 2053 be received under the plan by the members of or owners of eligible interests in any party to the merger;

2054 2. The articles of incorporation of any domestic or foreign corporation or stock corporation or the organic document of any unincorporated entity that will survive or be created as a result of the merger, 2055 2056 except for changes permitted by subsection B of § 13.1-885; or

2057 3. Any of the other terms or conditions of the plan if the change would adversely affect such 2058 members in any material respect. 2059

§ 13.1-895. Action on plan of merger.

2060 A. Where In the case of a domestic corporation that is a party to a merger, where the members of 2061 any merging corporation have voting rights, a the plan of merger shall be adopted in the following 2062 manner:

2063 1. The by the board of directors of such corporation party to the merger, after. Except as provided in 2064 subsection E, adopting a plan of merger, the board of directors shall submit the plan of merger, except 2065 as provided in subdivision 7 of this subsection, to the members for their approval by its members. 2066

2. For a plan of merger to be approved:

2067 a. The board of directors shall recommend the plan of merger also transmit to the members a 2068 recommendation that the members approve the plan, unless the board of directors determines makes a 2069 determination that because of conflict conflicts of interests interest or other special circumstances it 2070 should not make no such a recommendation and communicates, in which case the board of directors 2071 shall transmit to the members the basis for its that determination to the members with the plan; and

2072 b. The members shall approve the plan as provided in subdivision 5 of this subsection.

2073 3B. The board of directors may condition its submission of the proposed plan of merger to the 2074 *members* on any basis.

2075 4 C. The If the plan of merger is required to be approved by the members, and if the approval is to 2076 be given at a meeting, the corporation shall notify each member, whether or not entitled to vote, of the 2077 proposed members' meeting in accordance with § 13.1-842 of the meeting of members at which the plan 2078 is to be submitted for approval. The notice shall also state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of 2079 the meeting is to consider the plan of merger and contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of 2080 the plan. If the corporation is to be merged into an existing domestic or foreign corporation or eligible 2081 entity and its members are to receive membership or other interests in the surviving corporation or 2082 eligible entity, the notice shall also include or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the articles of 2083 incorporation or organic document of that corporation or eligible entity. If the corporation is to be 2084 merged into a domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity that is to be created pursuant to the 2085 merger and its members are to receive membership or other interests in the surviving corporation or 2086 eligible entity, the notice shall include or be accompanied by a copy or a summary of the articles of 2087 incorporation or organic document of the new domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity.

2088 5 D. Unless this chapter the articles of incorporation or the board of directors, acting pursuant to

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2089 subdivision 3 of this subsection, B, requires a greater vote, the plan of merger to be authorized shall be 2090 approved by each voting group entitled to vote on the plan by more than two-thirds of all the votes cast 2091 on the plan by that voting group at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting group exists. The articles 2092 of incorporation may provide for a greater or lesser vote than that provided for in this subsection or a 2093 vote by separate voting groups so long as the vote provided for is not less than a majority of all the 2094 votes cast on the plan by each voting group entitled to vote on the plan transaction at a meeting at 2095 which a quorum of the voting group exists.

2096 6. Voting by a class of members as a separate voting group is required on a plan of merger if the 2097 plan contains a provision that, if contained in a proposed amendment to articles of incorporation, would 2098 entitle the class to vote as a separate voting group on the proposed amendment E. Separate voting by 2099 voting groups is required: 2100

1. On a plan of merger by each class of members:

2101 a. Whose membership interests are to be converted under the plan of merger into membership 2102 interests in a different domestic or foreign corporation, or eligible interests or other securities, 2103 obligations, rights to acquire membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, cash, other 2104 property, or any combination of the foregoing; or

2105 b. Who would entitled to vote as a separate group on a provision in the plan that, if contained in a 2106 proposed amendment to the articles of incorporation, would require action by separate voting groups 2107 under § 13.1-887.

2108 7. Action by the members of the surviving corporation on a plan of merger is not required if:

2109 a. The2. On a plan of merger, if the voting group is entitled under the articles of incorporation of 2110 the surviving corporation will not differ from its articles before the merger to vote as a voting group to 2111 approve a plan of merger.

2112 F. Unless the articles of incorporation otherwise provide, approval by the corporation's members of 2113 a plan of merger is not required if: 2114

1. The corporation will survive the merger;

2115 2. Except for amendments permitted by subsection B of § 13.1-885, its articles of incorporation will 2116 *not be changed*; and

2117 b3. Each person who is a member of the surviving corporation immediately before the effective date 2118 of the merger will retain the same membership interest with identical designation, preferences, 2119 limitations, and relative rights, immediately after the effective date of the merger as held before.

2120 **B**G. Where any merging corporation has no members, or no members having voting rights, a plan of 2121 merger shall be adopted at a meeting of the board of directors of such corporation upon receiving the 2122 vote of a majority of the directors in office.

2123 C. Any plan of merger may contain a provision that the board of directors of each corporation party 2124 to the merger may amend the plan at any time prior to issuance of the certificate of merger. Where a 2125 plan of merger is required to be submitted to the members for their approval an amendment made 2126 subsequent to the submission of the plan to the members of any corporation party to the merger shall 2127 not (i) alter or change any of the terms and conditions of the plan if such alteration or change would adversely affect the members of any class of such corporation, or (ii) alter or change any term of the 2128 2129 articles of incorporation of any corporation whose members shall approve the plan of merger. If articles 2130 of merger already have been filed with the Commission, amended articles of merger shall be filed with 2131 the Commission prior to the issuance of the certificate of merger.

2132 D. Unless a plan of merger prohibits abandonment of the merger without member approval, after the 2133 merger has been authorized, and at any time prior to issuance of the certificate of merger, the merger 2134 may be abandoned, subject to any contractual rights, without further member action, in accordance with 2135 the procedure set forth in the plan or, if none is set forth, in the manner determined by the board of 2136 directors of each corporation party to the merger. Written notice of abandonment shall be filed with the 2137 Commission prior to the issuance of the certificate of merger.

2138 H. If as a result of a merger one or more members of a domestic corporation would become subject 2139 to owner liability for the debts, obligations, or liabilities of any other person or entity, approval of the 2140 plan of merger shall require the execution by each member of a separate written consent to become 2141 subject to such owner liability. 2142

§ 13.1-896. Articles of merger.

2143 A. After a plan of merger is approved by the members, or adopted by the board of directors if 2144 member approval is not required, the surviving corporation shall file with the Commission has been 2145 adopted and approved as required by this Act, articles of merger shall be executed by on behalf of each 2146 party to the merger setting. The articles shall set forth:

2147 1. The plan of merger, the names of the parties to the merger, and, for each party that is a foreign 2148 corporation or eligible entity, the name of the state or country under whose law it is incorporated or 2149 formed;

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2150 2. Where the members of any merging corporation have voting rights, then as to each such 2151 corporation, If the articles of incorporation of a domestic corporation that is the survivor of a merger 2152 are amended, or if a new domestic corporation is created as a result of a merger, as an attachment to 2153 the articles of merger, the amendments to the survivor's articles of incorporation or the articles of 2154 incorporation of the new corporation;

2155 3. If the plan of merger required approval by the members of a domestic corporation that was a party to the merger, either: 2156

2157 a. A statement that the plan was adopted approved by the unanimous consent of the members; or

2158 b. A statement that the plan was submitted to the members by the board of directors in accordance 2159 with this Act, and a statement of:

2160 (1) The existence of a quorum of designation of and number of votes entitled to be cast by each 2161 voting group entitled to vote separately on the plan; and

2162 (2) Either the total number of votes cast for and against the plan by each voting group entitled to 2163 vote separately on the plan or the total number of undisputed votes cast for the plan separately by each 2164 voting group and a statement that the number cast for the plan by each voting group was sufficient for 2165 approval by that voting group.

2166 34. Where any merging *I* the plan of merger did not require approval by the members of a domestic 2167 corporation has no members, or no members having voting rights, then that was a party to the merger, 2168 a statement of to that fact effect including the reason approval was not required, the date of the meeting 2169 of the board of directors at which the plan was adopted and a statement of the fact that such plan 2170 received the vote of a majority of the directors in office; and

2171 5. As to each foreign corporation or eligible entity that was a party to the merger, a statement that 2172 the participation of the foreign corporation or eligible entity was duly authorized as required by the 2173 organic law of the corporation or eligible entity.

B. Articles of merger shall be filed with the Commission by the survivor of the merger. If the 2174 2175 Commission finds that the articles of merger comply with the requirements of law and that all required 2176 fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of merger. Articles of merger filed under this section may 2177 be combined with any filing required under the organic law of any domestic eligible entity involved in the transaction if the combined filing satisfies the requirements of both this section and the other 2178 2179 organic law. 2180

§ 13.1-897. Effect of merger.

A. When a merger takes effect becomes effective:

2182 1. Every other The domestic or foreign corporation party to the merger merges into the surviving 2183 corporation and the separate existence of every corporation except the surviving corporation ceases or 2184 eligible entity that is designated in the plan of merger as the survivor continues or comes into existence 2185 as the case may be:

2186 2. The title to all real estate and other property owned by each corporation party to the merger shall 2187 be taken and deemed to be transferred to and vested in the surviving corporation without reversion or 2188 impairment separate existence of every domestic or foreign corporation or eligible entity that is merged 2189 into the survivor ceases;

2190 3. The surviving corporation has all liabilities of each corporation party to the mergerProperty owned 2191 by and, except to the extent that assignment would violate a contractual prohibition on assignment by 2192 operation of law, every contract right possessed by each domestic or foreign corporation or eligible 2193 entity that merges into the survivor is vested in the survivor without reversion or impairment;

2194 4. A proceeding pending by or against any corporation party to the merger may be continued as if 2195 the merger did not occur or the surviving corporation may be substituted in the proceeding for the 2196 corporation whose existence ceasedAll liabilities of each domestic or foreign corporation or eligible 2197 entity that is merged into the survivor are vested in the survivor;

2198 5. The articles of incorporation of the surviving corporation are amended to the extent provided in 2199 the plan of mergerThe name of the survivor may, but need not be, substituted in any pending proceeding 2200 for the name of any party to the merger whose separate existence ceased in the merger; and

2201 6. The former members of every corporation party to the merger are entitled only to the rights 2202 provided in the articles of merger articles of incorporation or organic document of the survivor is 2203 amended to the extent provided in the plan of merger;

2204 7. The articles of incorporation or organic document of a survivor that is created by the merger 2205 becomes effective; and

8. The membership interests of each domestic or foreign corporation that is a party to the merger 2206 2207 and the eligible interests in an eligible entity that is a party to the merger that are to be converted 2208 under the plan of merger into membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, obligations, 2209 rights to acquire membership interests, eligible interests or other securities, cash, other property, or any 2210 combination of the foregoing, are converted, and the former holders of such membership interests or 2211 eligible interests are entitled only to the rights provided to them in the plan of merger or to any rights

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2212 they may have under the organic law of the eligible entity.

2213 B. Upon a merger's becoming effective, a foreign corporation or a foreign eligible entity that is the 2214 survivor of the merger is deemed to appoint the clerk of the Commission as its agent for service of 2215 process in a proceeding to enforce the rights of members of each domestic corporation that is a party to 2216 the merger.

2217 C. No corporation that is required by law to be a domestic corporation may, by merger, cease to be 2218 a domestic corporation, but every such corporation, even though a corporation of some other state, the 2219 United States, or another country, shall also be a domestic corporation of the Commonwealth.

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§ 13.1-897.1. Abandonment of a merger.

2221 A. Unless otherwise provided in a plan of merger or in the laws under which a foreign corporation 2222 or a domestic or foreign eligible entity that is a party to a merger is organized or by which it is governed, after the plan has been adopted and approved as required by this article, and at any time 2223 2224 before the certificate of merger has become effective, the merger may be abandoned by a domestic 2225 corporation that is a party thereto without action by members in accordance with any procedures set 2226 forth in the plan of merger or, if no such procedures are set forth in the plan, in the manner determined 2227 by the board of directors, subject to any contractual rights of other parties to the merger.

2228 B. If a merger is abandoned under subsection A after articles of merger have been filed with the 2229 Commission but before the certificate of merger has become effective, a statement that the merger has 2230 been abandoned in accordance with this section, executed on behalf of a party to the merger, shall be 2231 delivered to the Commission for filing prior to the effective date of the certificate of merger. Upon 2232 filing, the statement shall take effect and the merger shall be deemed abandoned and shall not become 2233 effective.

§ 13.1-898.2. Domestication.

2235 A. A foreign corporation may become a domestic corporation if the laws of the jurisdiction in which 2236 the foreign corporation is incorporated authorize it to domesticate in another jurisdiction. The laws of 2237 this the Commonwealth shall govern the effect of domesticating in this the Commonwealth pursuant to 2238 this article.

2239 B. A domestic corporation not required by law to be a domestic corporation may become a foreign 2240 corporation if the jurisdiction in which the corporation intends to domesticate allows for the 2241 domestication. Regardless of whether the laws of the foreign jurisdiction require the adoption of a plan 2242 of domestication, the domestication shall be approved in the manner provided in this article. The laws of 2243 the jurisdiction in which the corporation domesticates shall govern the effect of domesticating in that 2244 jurisdiction.

- C. The plan of domestication shall set forth:
- 2246 1. A statement of the jurisdiction in which the corporation is to be domesticated; and
- 2247 2. The terms and conditions of the domestication.
- 2248 D. The plan of domestication may include:

1. Subject to the provisions of subsection C, amendments to the articles of incorporation of the 2249 2250 corporation following its domestication or a restatement of the articles of incorporation; and 2251

2. Any other provision relating to the domestication.

2252 E. The plan of domestication may also include a provision that the board of directors may amend the 2253 plan at any time prior to issuance of the certificate of domestication or such other document required by 2254 the laws of the other jurisdiction to consummate the domestication. Where a plan of domestication is 2255 required to be submitted to the members for their approval, an amendment made subsequent to the 2256 submission of the plan to the members of the corporation shall not alter or change any of the terms and 2257 or conditions of the plan if such alteration or change would adversely affect the members of any class 2258 of such the corporation. 2259

- § 13.1-898.3. Action on plan of domestication by a domestic corporation.
- 2260 A. When the members of a domestic corporation have voting rights, a plan of domestication shall be 2261 adopted in the following manner:
- 2262 1. The board of directors of the corporation shall adopt the plan of domestication.

2263 2. After adopting a plan of domestication, the board of directors shall submit the plan of 2264 domestication for approval by the members.

2265 3. For a plan of domestication to be approved:

2266 a. The board of directors shall recommend the plan to the members unless the board of directors 2267 determines that because of conflict of interests or other special circumstances it should make no 2268 recommendation and communicates the basis for its determination to the members with the plan; and

2269 b. The members shall approve the plan as provided in subdivision 6 of this subsection.

2270 4. The board of directors may condition its submission of the plan of domestication to the members 2271 on any basis.

2272 5. The corporation shall notify each member entitled to vote of the proposed members' meeting in

2273 accordance with § 13.1-842 at which the plan of domestication is to be submitted for approval. The 2274 notice shall also state that a purpose of the meeting is to consider the plan and shall contain or be 2275 accompanied by a copy of the plan.

2276 6. Unless this chapter Act or the board of directors, acting pursuant to subdivision 4 of this 2277 subsection, requires a greater vote, the plan of domestication to be authorized shall be approved by each 2278 voting group entitled to vote on the plan by more than two-thirds of all the votes *entitled to be* cast on 2279 the plan by that voting group at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting group exists. The articles of 2280 incorporation may provide for a greater or lesser vote than that provided for in this subdivision or a vote 2281 by separate voting groups so long as the vote provided for is not less than a majority of all the votes 2282 cast on the plan by each voting group entitled to vote on the plan at a meeting at which a quorum of 2283 the voting group exists.

2284 7. Voting by a class of members as a separate voting group is required on a plan of domestication if 2285 the plan contains a provision that, if contained in a proposed amendment to articles of incorporation, 2286 would entitle the class to vote as a separate voting group on the proposed amendment under § 13.1-887.

2287 B. When a domestic corporation has no members, or no members have voting rights, a plan of 2288 domestication shall be adopted at a meeting of the board of directors of such corporation upon receiving 2289 the vote of a majority of the directors in office. 2290

§ 13.1-898.4. Articles of domestication.

2291 A. After the domestication of a foreign corporation is approved in the manner required by the laws 2292 of the jurisdiction in which the corporation is incorporated, the corporation shall file with the Commission articles of domestication setting forth: 2293

2294 1. The name of the corporation immediately prior to the filing of the articles of domestication and, if 2295 that name is unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth or the corporation desires to change its name 2296 in connection with the domestication, a name that satisfies the requirements of § 13.1-829; 2297

2. The plan of domestication;

2298 3. The original jurisdiction of the corporation and the date the corporation was incorporated in that 2299 jurisdiction, and each subsequent jurisdiction and the date the corporation was domesticated in each such 2300 jurisdiction, if any, prior to the filing of the articles of domestication; and

2301 4. A statement that the domestication is permitted by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the 2302 corporation is incorporated and that the corporation has complied with those laws in effecting the 2303 domestication.

2304 B. The articles of domestication shall have attached articles of incorporation that comply with the 2305 requirements of this chapter Act.

2306 C. If the Commission finds that the articles of domestication comply with the requirements of law 2307 and that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of domestication. 2308

D. The certificate of domestication shall become effective pursuant to § 13.1-806.

2309 E. A foreign corporation's existence as a domestic corporation shall begin when the certificate of 2310 domestication is effective. Upon becoming effective, the certificate of domestication shall be conclusive 2311 evidence that all conditions precedent required to be performed by the foreign corporation have been 2312 complied with and that the corporation has been incorporated under this chapter Act.

2313 F. If the foreign corporation is authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth under 2314 Article 14 (§ 13.1-919 et seq.) of this chapter Act, its certificate of authority shall be cancelled 2315 automatically on the effective date of the certificate of domestication issued by the Commission. 2316

§ 13.1-898.5. Surrender of articles of incorporation upon domestication.

2317 A. Whenever a domestic corporation has adopted and approved, in the manner required by this 2318 article, a plan of domestication providing for the corporation to be domesticated under the laws of 2319 another jurisdiction, the corporation shall file with the Commission articles of incorporation surrender 2320 setting forth: 2321

1. The name of the corporation;

2. The corporation's new jurisdiction of incorporation;

3. The plan of domestication;

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2324 4. A statement that the articles of incorporation surrender are being filed in connection with the 2325 domestication of the corporation as a foreign corporation to be incorporated under the laws of another 2326 jurisdiction and that the corporation is surrendering its charter under the laws of this the 2327 Commonwealth: 2328

5. Where the members of the corporation have voting rights, either a statement:

a. A statement that That the plan was adopted by the unanimous consent of the members; or

2330 b. A statement that That the plan was submitted to the members by the board of directors in 2331 accordance with this chapter Act, and a statement of: 2332

(1) The existence of a quorum of each voting group entitled to vote separately on the plan; and

2333 (2) Either the total number of votes cast for and against the plan by each voting group entitled to 2334 vote separately on the plan or the total number of undisputed votes cast for the plan separately by each

2335 voting group and a statement that the number cast for the plan by each voting group was sufficient for 2336 approval by that voting group;

2337 6. Where the corporation has no members, or no members having voting rights, then a statement of 2338 that fact, the date of the meeting of the board of directors at which the plan was adopted and a 2339 statement of the fact that such plan received the vote of a majority of the directors in office;

2340 7. A statement that the domestic corporation revokes the authority of its registered agent to accept 2341 service on its behalf and appoints the clerk of the Commission as its agent for service of process in any 2342 proceeding based on a cause of action arising during the time it was incorporated in this the 2343 Commonwealth;

2344 8. A mailing address to which the clerk may mail a copy of any process served on him under 2345 subdivision 7; and

2346 9. A commitment to notify the clerk of the Commission in the future of any change in the mailing 2347 address of the corporation.

2348 B. If the Commission finds that the articles of incorporation surrender comply with the requirements 2349 of law and that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of incorporation surrender.

2350 C. The corporation shall automatically cease to be a domestic corporation when the certificate of 2351 incorporation surrender becomes effective.

2352 D. If the former domestic corporation intends to continue to transact business in the Commonwealth, 2353 then, within 30 days after the effective date of the certificate of incorporation surrender, it shall deliver 2354 to the Commission an application for a certificate of authority to transact business in the Commonwealth 2355 pursuant to § 13.1-921 together with a copy of its instrument of domestication and articles of 2356 incorporation and all amendments thereto, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official 2357 having custody of corporate records in the state or country under whose laws it is incorporated or 2358 domesticated. 2359

§ 13.1-898.6. Effect of domestication.

2360 A. When a foreign corporation's certificate of domestication in this the Commonwealth becomes 2361 effective, with respect to that corporation:

2362 1. The title to all real estate and other property remains in the corporation without reversion or impairment; 2363 2364

2. The liabilities remain the liabilities of the corporation;

2365 3. A proceeding pending may be continued by or against the corporation as if the domestication did 2366 not occur;

2367 4. The articles of incorporation attached to the articles of domestication constitute the articles of 2368 incorporation of the corporation; and

2369 5. The corporation is deemed to: 2370

a. Be incorporated under the laws of this the Commonwealth for all purposes;

2371 b. Be the same corporation as the corporation that existed under the laws of the jurisdiction or 2372 jurisdictions in which it was originally incorporated or formerly domiciled; and 2373

c. Have been incorporated on the date it was originally incorporated or organized.

2374 B. Any member or director of a foreign corporation that domesticates into this the Commonwealth 2375 who, prior to the domestication, was liable for the liabilities or obligations of the corporation is not 2376 released from those liabilities or obligations by reason of the domestication. 2377

§ 13.1-898.7. Abandonment of domestication.

2378 A. Unless a plan of domestication of a domestic corporation prohibits abandonment of the 2379 domestication without member approval, after the domestication has been authorized, and at any time 2380 before the certificate of domestication filed in the other jurisdiction has become effective, the 2381 domestication may be abandoned without further member action in accordance with the procedure set 2382 forth in the plan or, if none is set forth, in the manner determined by the board of directors.

2383 B. If a domestication is abandoned as provided under subsection A after articles of incorporation 2384 surrender have been filed with the Commission but before the certificate of incorporation surrender has 2385 become effective, written notice that the domestication has been abandoned in accordance with this 2386 section shall be filed with the Commission prior to the effective date of the certificate of incorporation 2387 surrender. The notice shall take effect upon filing and the domestication shall be deemed abandoned and 2388 shall not become effective.

2389 C. If the domestication of a foreign corporation into this the Commonwealth is abandoned in 2390 accordance with the laws of the foreign jurisdiction after articles of domestication have been filed with 2391 the Commission but before the certificate of domestication has become effective in this the 2392 Commonwealth, written notice that the domestication has been abandoned shall be filed with the 2393 Commission prior to the effective date of the certificate of domestication. The notice shall take effect 2394 upon filing and the domestication shall be deemed abandoned and shall not become effective.

2395 § 13.1-899. Sale of assets in regular course of business.

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2396 A. AUnless the articles of incorporation provide otherwise, no approval of the members of a 2397 corporation may entitled to vote is required:

2398 1. To sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all, any or substantially all, of its property the 2399 corporation's assets in the usual and regular course of business, or;

2400 2. To mortgage, pledge, or dedicate to the repayment of indebtedness, whether with or without 2401 recourse, or otherwise encumber any or all of its property the corporation's assets whether or not in the 2402 usual and regular course of business, on the terms and conditions and for the consideration determined 2403 by the board of directors; or

2404 3. To transfer any or all of the corporation's assets to one or more domestic or foreign eligible 2405 entities all of whose eligible interests are owned by the corporation.

2406 B. Unless the articles of incorporation require it, approval by the members of a transaction described 2407 in subsection A of this section is not required.

§ 13.1-900. Sale of assets other than in regular course of business.

2409 A. A corporation may sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all, or substantially all, of its 2410 property assets, with or without the good will, otherwise than in the usual and regular course of 2411 business, on the terms and conditions and for the consideration determined by the corporation's board of 2412 directors, if the board of directors adopts and its members approve the proposed transaction.

2413 B. For a transaction to be authorized where Where there are members having voting rights, a 2414 disposition, other than a disposition described in § 13.1-899, shall be authorized in the following 2415 manner:

2416 1. The board of directors shall adopt a resolution authorizing the disposition. After adoption of such 2417 a resolution, the board of directors shall submit the proposed transaction disposition to the members with its for their approval. The board of directors shall also submit to the members a recommendation 2418 that the members approve the proposed disposition, unless the board of directors determines makes a 2419 2420 determination that because of conflict conflicts of interests interest or other special circumstances it 2421 should not make no such a recommendation and communicates, in which case the board of directors 2422 shall transmit to the members the basis for its that determination to the members with the submission of 2423 the proposed transaction.

2424 2. The members entitled to vote shall approve the transaction as provided in subdivision 5 of this 2425 subsection.

3. The board of directors may condition its submission of the proposed transaction on any basis.

2427 43. The corporation shall notify each member, whether or not entitled to vote, of the proposed 2428 members' meeting in accordance with § 13.1-842. The notice shall also state that the purpose, or one of 2429 the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of all, or substantially all, the property of the corporation and shall contain or be accompanied by a copy or 2430 2431 summary of the agreement pursuant to which the transaction disposition will be effected. If only a 2432 summary of the agreement is sent to members, the corporation shall also send a copy of the agreement 2433 to any member who requests it.

2434 54. Unless the board of directors, acting pursuant to subdivision 32 of this subsection, requires a 2435 greater vote, the transaction disposition to be authorized shall be approved by more than two-thirds of 2436 all the votes cast on the transaction disposition at a meeting at which a quorum exists. The articles of 2437 incorporation may provide for a greater or lesser vote than that provided for in this subsection or a vote 2438 by separate voting groups so long as the vote provided for is not less than a majority of all the votes 2439 cast on the transaction disposition by each voting group entitled to vote on the transaction at a meeting 2440 at which a quorum of the voting group exists.

2441 65. Unless the parties to the transaction disposition have agreed otherwise, after a sale, lease, 2442 exchange, or other disposition of property is authorized, the transaction disposition of assets has been approved by members, and at any time before the disposition has been consummated, it may be 2443 2444 abandoned, subject to any contractual rights, without further member action in accordance with the 2445 procedure set forth in the resolution proposing the transaction disposition or, if none is set forth, in the 2446 manner determined by the board of directors.

2447 C. For a transaction to be authorized where there are no members, or no members having voting 2448 rights, the proposed transaction shall be authorized upon receiving the vote of a majority of the directors 2449 in office.

2450 D. A disposition of assets in the course of dissolution under Article 13 (§ 13.1-902 et seq.) is not 2451 governed by this section. 2452

§ 13.1-902. Dissolution by directors and members.

2453 A. Where there are members having voting rights, a corporation's board of directors may propose 2454 dissolution for submission to the members. 2455

B. For a proposal to dissolve to be adopted:

2456 1. The board of directors shall recommend dissolution to the members unless the board of directors 2457 determines that because of conflict of interests or other special circumstances it should make no

2458 recommendation and communicates the basis for its determination to the members; and

2459 2. The members entitled to vote shall approve the proposal to dissolve as provided in subsection  $E ext{ of }$ 2460 this section. 2461

C. The board of directors may condition its submission of the proposal for dissolution on any basis.

2462 D. The corporation shall notify each member entitled to vote of the proposed members' meeting in 2463 accordance with § 13.1-842. The notice shall also state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the 2464 meeting is to consider dissolving the corporation.

2465 E. Unless the board of directors, acting pursuant to subsection C of this section, requires a greater 2466 vote, dissolution to be authorized shall be have been approved by more than two-thirds of all the votes 2467 cast on the proposal to dissolve at a meeting at which a quorum exists. The articles of incorporation 2468 may provide for a greater or lesser vote than that provided for in this subsection or a vote by separate 2469 voting groups so long as the vote provided for is not less than a majority of all the votes cast by each 2470 voting group entitled to vote on the proposed dissolution at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting 2471 group exists.

- 2472 § 13.1-904. Articles of dissolution.
- 2473 A. At any time after dissolution is authorized *approved*, the corporation may dissolve by filing with 2474 the Commission articles of dissolution setting forth:
- 2475 1. The name of the corporation.
- 2476 2. The date dissolution was authorized.
- 2477 3. Where there are members having voting rights,
- 2478 a. Either either (i) a statement that dissolution was authorized by unanimous consent of the members, 2479 or (ii) a statement that the proposed dissolution was submitted to the members by the board of directors 2480 in accordance with this chapter; article and
- 2481 **b.** A *a* statement of:
- 2482 (1) The (a) the existence of a quorum of each voting group entitled to vote separately on dissolution; 2483 and

2484 (2) Either (b) either the total number of votes cast for and against dissolution by each voting group 2485 entitled to vote separately on dissolution or the total number of undisputed votes cast for dissolution 2486 separately by each voting group and a statement that the number cast for dissolution by each voting 2487 group was sufficient for approval by that voting group.

2488 4. Where there are no members, or no members having voting rights, then a statement of that fact, 2489 the date of the meeting of the board of directors at which the dissolution was authorized and a statement 2490 of the fact that dissolution was authorized by the vote of a majority of the directors in office.

2491 B. If the Commission finds that the articles of dissolution comply with the requirements of law and 2492 that the corporation has paid all required fees and taxes imposed by laws administered by the 2493 Commission, it shall issue a certificate of dissolution. 2494

C. A corporation is dissolved upon the effective date of the certificate of dissolution.

D. For purposes of §§ 13.1-902 through 13.1-908.2, "dissolved corporation" means a corporation 2495 2496 whose articles of dissolution have become effective; the term includes a successor entity to which the remaining assets of the corporation are transferred subject to its liabilities for purposes of liquidation. 2497 2498 § 13.1-906. Effect of dissolution.

2499 A. A dissolved corporation continues its corporate existence but may not transact any business except 2500 that appropriate to wind up and liquidate its business *and affairs*, including:

2501 1. Collecting its assets;

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- 2502 2. Disposing of its properties:
- 2503 3. Discharging or making provision for discharging its liabilities;
- 2504 4. Distributing its remaining property; and
- 2505 5. Doing every other act necessary to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs.
- 2506 B. Dissolution of a corporation does not:
- 2507 1. Transfer title to the corporation's property;
- 2508 2. Subject its directors to standards of conduct different from those prescribed in § 13.1-870;
- 2509 3. Change quorum or voting requirements for its board of directors or members; change provisions 2510 for selection, resignation, or removal of its directors or officers; or change provisions for amending its 2511 bylaws;
  - 4. Prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against the corporation in its corporate name;
- 2513 5. Abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against the corporation on the effective date of 2514 dissolution; or
- 2515 6. Terminate the authority of the registered agent of the corporation.
- 2516 § 13.1-907. Distribution and plan of distribution of assets.
- 2517 A. The assets of a corporation in the process of dissolution shall be applied and distributed as 2518 follows:

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2519 1. All liabilities and obligations of the corporation shall be paid, satisfied and discharged, or adequate 2520 provision shall be made therefor;

2521 2. Assets held by the corporation upon condition requiring return, transfer or conveyance, which 2522 condition occurs by reason of the dissolution, shall be returned, transferred or conveyed in accordance 2523 with such requirements;

2524 3. Assets received and held by the corporation subject to limitations permitting their use only for 2525 charitable, religious, eleemosynary, benevolent, educational or similar purposes, but not held upon a 2526 condition requiring return, transfer or conveyance by reason of the dissolution, shall be transferred or 2527 conveyed to one or more domestic or foreign corporations, societies or organizations engaged in 2528 activities substantially similar to those of the dissolving corporation, pursuant to a plan of distribution 2529 adopted as provided in this chapter Act or as a court may direct;

2530 4. Other assets, if any, shall be distributed in accordance with the provisions of the articles of 2531 incorporation or the bylaws to the extent that the articles of incorporation or bylaws determine the 2532 distributive rights of members, or any class or classes of members, or provide for distribution to others;

2533 5. Any remaining assets may be distributed to such persons, societies, organizations or domestic or 2534 foreign corporations, whether issuing shares or not, as may be specified in a plan of distribution adopted 2535 as provided in this chapter Act or as a court may direct.

2536 B. A plan providing for the distribution of assets, not inconsistent with the provisions of this <del>chapter</del> 2537 Act, may be adopted by a corporation in the process of dissolution and shall be adopted by a 2538 corporation for the purpose of authorizing any transfer or conveyance of assets for which this <del>chapter</del> 2539 Act requires a plan of distribution. A plan shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures 2540 established in § 13.1-902 or § 13.1-903, as the case may be. 2541

§ 13.1-908. Known claims against dissolved corporation.

2542 A. A dissolved corporation may dispose of the known claims against it by following the procedure 2543 described in this section.

2544 B. The dissolved corporation shall deliver to each of its known claimants written notice of the 2545 dissolution at any time after its effective date. The written notice shall: 2546

1. Provide a reasonable description of the claim that the claimant may be entitled to assert;

2547 2. State whether the claim is admitted, or not admitted, and if admitted (i) the amount that is 2548 admitted, which may be as of a given date, and (ii) any interest obligation if fixed by an instrument of 2549 indebtedness: 2550

3. Provide a mailing address where a claim may be sent;

2551 4. State the deadline, which may not be fewer than 120 days from the effective date of the written 2552 notice, by which confirmation of the claim shall is required to be delivered to the dissolved corporation; 2553 and 2554

5. State that, except to the extent that any claim is admitted, the claim will be barred if written confirmation of the claim is not delivered by the deadline.

C. A claim against the dissolved corporation is barred to the extent that it is not admitted:

2557 1. If the dissolved corporation delivered written notice to the claimant in accordance with subsection 2558 B of this section and the claimant does not deliver written confirmation of the claim to the dissolved 2559 corporation by the deadline; or

2560 2. If the dissolved corporation delivered written notice to the claimant that his claim is not admitted. 2561 in whole or in part, and the claimant does not commence a proceeding to enforce the claim within 2562 ninety 90 days from the delivery of written confirmation of the claim to the dissolved corporation.

D. For purposes of this section, "claim" does not include (i) a contingent liability or a claim based 2563 2564 on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution or (ii) a liability or claim the ultimate 2565 maturity of which is more than sixty 60 days after the delivery of written notice to the claimant 2566 pursuant to subsection B of this section.

2567 E. If a liability exists but the full extent of any damages is or may not be ascertainable, and a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced pursuant to subdivision C 2 of subsection C of this 2568 2569 section, the claimant may amend the pleadings after filing to include any damages that occurred or are 2570 alleged to have occurred after filing. The, and the court having jurisdiction of such claim may continue 2571 such proceeding during its pendency if it appears that further damages are or may be still occurring. 2572

§ 13.1-908.1. Other claims against dissolved corporation.

2573 A. A dissolved corporation may also publish notice of its dissolution and request that persons with 2574 claims against the dissolved corporation present them in accordance with the notice. 2575

B. The notice shall:

2576 1. Be published one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or county where the 2577 dissolved corporation's principal office, or, if none in the Commonwealth, its registered office, is or was 2578 last located:

2579 2. Describe the information that is required to be included in a claim and provide a mailing address 2580 to which the claim may be sent; and

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2581 3. State that a claim against the dissolved corporation will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce 2582 the claim is commenced prior to the earlier of the expiration of any applicable statute of limitations or 2583 three years after the date of publication of the notice.

C. If the dissolved corporation publishes a newspaper notice in accordance with subsection B. the 2584 2585 claim of each of the following claimants is barred unless the claimant commences a proceeding to 2586 enforce the claim against the dissolved corporation prior to the earlier of the expiration of any 2587 applicable statute of limitations or three years after the publication date of the newspaper notice:

2588 1. A claimant who was not given written notice under § 13.1-908;

2589 2. A claimant whose claim was sent in a timely manner to the dissolved corporation but not acted 2590 on;

2591 3. A claimant whose claim does not meet the definition of a claim in subsection D of § 13.1-908.

2592 D. A claim that is not barred by subsection C of § 13.1-908 or subsection C of § 13.1-908.1 may be 2593 enforced: 2594

1. Against the dissolved corporation, to the extent of its undistributed assets; or

2595 2. Except as provided in subsection D of § 13.1-908.2, if the assets have been distributed in liquidation, against a member of the dissolved corporation to the extent of the member's pro rata share 2596 2597 of the claim or the corporate assets distributed to the member in liquidation, whichever is less, but a 2598 member's total liability for all claims under this section may not exceed the total amount of assets 2599 distributed to the member.

2600 § 13.1-908.2. Court proceedings.

2601 A. A dissolved corporation that has published a notice under § 13.1-908.1 may file an application 2602 with the circuit court of the city or county where the dissolved corporation's principal office, or, if none 2603 in the Commonwealth, its registered office, is or was last located for a determination of the amount and 2604 form of security to be provided for payment of claims that are contingent or have not been made known 2605 to the dissolved corporation or that are based on an event occurring after the effective date of 2606 dissolution but that, based on the facts known to the dissolved corporation, are reasonably estimated to 2607 arise after the effective date of dissolution. Provision need not be made for any claim that is or is 2608 reasonably anticipated to be barred under subsection C of § 13.1-908.1.

2609 B. Within 10 days after the filing of the application, notice of the proceeding shall be given by the 2610 dissolved corporation to each claimant holding a contingent claim whose contingent claim is shown on 2611 the records of the dissolved corporation.

2612 C. The court may appoint a guardian ad litem to represent all claimants whose identities are 2613 unknown in any proceeding brought under this section. The reasonable fees and expenses of such 2614 guardian, including all reasonable expert witness fees, shall be paid by the dissolved corporation.

2615 D. Provision by the dissolved corporation for security in the amount and the form ordered by the 2616 court under subsection A shall satisfy the dissolved corporation's obligations with respect to claims that 2617 do not meet the definition of a claim in subsection D of § 13.1-908, and such claims may not be 2618 enforced against a member who received assets in liquidation.

§ 13.1-908.3. Director duties. 2619

2620 A. The board of directors shall cause the dissolved corporation to apply its remaining assets to 2621 discharge or make reasonable provision for the payment of claims and make distributions of assets to 2622 members after payment or provision for claims.

2623 B. Directors of a dissolved corporation that has disposed of claims under § 13.1-908, 13.1-908.1, or 2624 13.1-908.2 shall not be liable for breach of subsection A with respect to claims against the dissolved 2625 corporation that are barred or satisfied under § 13.1-908, 13.1-908.1, or 13.1-908.2.

2626 § 13.1-909. Grounds for judicial dissolution.

2627 A. The circuit court in the any city or county described in subsection C of this section may dissolve 2628 a corporation: 2629

1. In a proceeding by a member or director if it is established that:

2630 a. The directors are deadlocked in the management of the corporate affairs and irreparable injury to 2631 the corporation is threatened or being suffered, or the business and affairs of the corporation can no 2632 longer be conducted to the advantage of the members generally, because of the deadlock, and either that 2633 the members are unable to break the deadlock or there are no members having voting rights; or

2634 b. The directors or those in control of the corporation have acted, are acting, or will act in a manner 2635 that is illegal, oppressive, or fraudulent; or

- c. The members are deadlocked in voting power and have failed, for a period that includes at least 2636 2637 two consecutive annual meeting dates, to elect successors to directors whose terms have expired; or
- 2638 d. The corporate assets are being misapplied or wasted; or
- 2639 e. The corporation is unable to carry out its purposes.
- 2640 2. In a proceeding by a creditor if it is established that:

2641 a. The creditor's claim has been reduced to judgment, the execution on the judgment returned

2642 unsatisfied and the corporation is insolvent; or

2643 b. The corporation has admitted in writing that the creditor's claim is due and owing and the 2644 corporation is insolvent.;

2645 3. In a proceeding by the corporation to have its voluntary dissolution continued under court 2646 supervision.

2647 4. Upon application by the board of directors when it is established that circumstances make it 2648 impossible to obtain a representative vote by members on the question of dissolution and that the 2649 continuation of the business of the corporation is not in the interest of the members but it is desirable in 2650 their interest that the assets and business be liquidated; or

2651 5. When the Commission has instituted a proceeding for the involuntary termination of a corporate existence and entered an order finding that the corporate existence of the corporation should be 2652 2653 terminated but that liquidation of its assets and business and affairs should precede the entry of an order 2654 of termination of corporate existence.

2655 B. The circuit court in the city or county named in subsection C of this section shall have full power to liquidate the assets and business of the corporation at any time after the termination of corporate 2656 2657 existence, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter or any laws of this Commonwealth in effect at any 2658 time prior to January 1, 1986, article upon the application of any person, for good cause, with regard to 2659 any assets or business that may remain. The jurisdiction conferred by this clause may also be exercised 2660 by any such court in any city or county where any property may be situated whether of a domestic or of 2661 a foreign corporation that has ceased to exist.

C. Venue for a proceeding brought under this section lies in the city or county where the 2662 2663 corporation's principal office is or was last located, or, if none in this the Commonwealth, where its 2664 registered office is or was last located.

2665 D. It is not necessary to make directors or members parties to a proceeding to be brought under this 2666 section unless relief is sought against them individually.

2667 E. A court in a proceeding brought to dissolve a corporation may issue injunctions, appoint a 2668 receiver or custodian pendente lite with such powers and duties as the court may direct, take other 2669 action required to preserve the corporate assets where wherever located, and carry on the business of the 2670 corporation until a full hearing can be held.

§ 13.1-910. Receivership or custodianship.

2672 A. A court in a judicial proceeding brought to dissolve a corporation may appoint one or more 2673 receivers to wind up and liquidate, or one or more custodians to manage while the proceeding is 2674 pending, the business and affairs of the corporation. The court shall hold a hearing, after notifying all 2675 parties to the proceeding and any interested persons designated by the court, before appointing a receiver 2676 or custodian. The court appointing a receiver or custodian has exclusive jurisdiction over the corporation 2677 and all its property wherever located.

B. The court may appoint an individual, a domestic corporation, or a foreign corporation, authorized 2678 2679 to transact business in this the Commonwealth, as a receiver or custodian. The court may require the 2680 receiver or custodian to post bond, with or without sureties, in an amount the court directs.

2681 C. The court shall describe the powers and duties of the receiver or custodian in its appointing order, 2682 which may be amended from time to time. Among other powers:

2683 1. The receiver (i) may dispose of all or any part of the assets of the corporation wherever located, 2684 at a public or private sale, if authorized by the court, and (ii) may sue and defend in his own name as 2685 receiver of the corporation in all courts of this the Commonwealth; and

2686 2. The custodian may exercise all of the powers of the corporation, through or in place of its board 2687 of directors or officers, to the extent necessary to manage the business affairs of the corporation in the 2688 best interests interest of its members and creditors.

2689 D. The court during a receivership may redesignate the receiver a custodian, and during a 2690 custodianship may redesignate the custodian a receiver, if doing so is in the best interests interest of the 2691 corporation, its members, and creditors.

2692 E. The court from time to time during the receivership or custodianship may order compensation 2693 paid and expense disbursements or reimbursements made to the receiver or custodian and his the 2694 *custodian's* counsel from the assets of the corporation or proceeds from the sale of the assets. 2695

§ 13.1-911. Decree of dissolution.

2696 A. If after a hearing the court determines that one or more grounds for judicial dissolution described 2697 in § 13.1-909 exists exist, it may enter a decree directing that the corporation shall be dissolved, and the. 2698 The clerk of the court shall deliver a certified copy of the decree to the Commission, which shall enter 2699 an order of involuntary dissolution.

2700 B. After the order of involuntary dissolution has been entered, the court shall direct the winding up 2701 and liquidation of the corporation's business and affairs in accordance with §§ 13.1-906 and 13.1-907 2702 and the notification of claimants in accordance with §§ 13.1-908, 13.1-908.1, and 13.1-908.2. When all 2703 of the assets of the corporation have been distributed, the court shall so advise the Commission, which 2704 shall enter an order of termination of corporate existence. 2705

§ 13.1-912. Articles of termination of corporate existence.

2706 A. When a corporation has distributed all of its assets and voluntary dissolution proceedings have not 2707 been revoked, it shall file articles of termination of corporate existence with the Commission. The 2708 articles shall set forth:

- 2709 1. The name of the corporation;
- 2710 2. That all the assets of the corporation have been distributed; and
- 2711 3. That the dissolution of the corporation has not been revoked.

2712 B. If the Commission finds that the articles of termination of corporate existence comply with the requirements of law and that all required fees have been paid, it shall by order issue a certificate of 2713 2714 termination of corporate existence. Upon the issuance of such certificate, the existence of the corporation 2715 shall cease, except for the purpose of suits, other proceedings and appropriate corporate action by 2716 members, directors and officers as provided in this chapter Act.

2717 C. The statement "that all the assets of the corporation have been distributed" means that the 2718 corporation has divested itself of all its assets by the payment of claims or by assignment to a trustee or 2719 trustees as directed by § 13.1-907. If any certificate holder, member, bondholder, or other security 2720 holder, or a participating patron of a cooperative who is entitled to a share in the distribution of the 2721 assets cannot be found, the corporation may thereupon, and without awaiting the one year mentioned in 2722 § 55-210.7, pay his such person's share to the State Treasurer as abandoned property on complying with 2723 all applicable requirements of § 55-210.12 except subdivision B 4 of subsection B of that section. 2724

§ 13.1-913. Termination of corporate existence by incorporators or initial directors.

2725 A majority of the initial directors or, if initial directors were not named in the articles of 2726 incorporation and have not been elected, the incorporators of a corporation that has not commenced to 2727 transact business may dissolve the corporation and terminate its corporate existence by filing with the 2728 Commission articles of termination of corporate existence that set forth:

- 2729 1. The name of the corporation; 2730
  - 2. [Repealed.]

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- 3. That the corporation has not commenced to transact business;
- 4. That no debt of the corporation remains unpaid;
- 2733 5. That the net assets of the corporation remaining after winding up have been distributed; and

2734 6. That a majority of the initial directors authorized the dissolution or that initial directors were not 2735 named in the articles of incorporation and have not been elected and a majority of the incorporators 2736 authorized the dissolution.

§ 13.1-914. Automatic termination of corporate existence.

2738 A. If any domestic corporation fails to file the annual report required by this chapter Act in a timely 2739 manner, the Commission shall mail notice to it of impending termination of its corporate existence. 2740 Whether or not such notice is mailed, if the corporation fails to file the annual report before the last day 2741 of the fourth month immediately following its annual report due date each year, the corporate existence 2742 of such the corporation shall automatically cease as of that day and its properties and affairs shall pass 2743 automatically to its directors as trustees in liquidation. The trustees shall then proceed to collect the 2744 assets of the corporation, and pay, satisfy and discharge its liabilities and obligations and do all other 2745 acts required to liquidate its business and affairs. After paying or adequately providing for the payment 2746 of all its obligations, the trustees shall distribute the remainder of its assets in accordance with 2747 § 13.1-907.

2748 B. 1. Any domestic corporation shall pay the annual registration fee required by law on or before the 2749 corporation's annual report due date determined in accordance with subsection C of § 13.1-936 of each 2750 year. If the corporation pays the annual registration fee for the year assessed after such date of that year, 2751 the corporation shall incur a penalty of ten dollars \$10.

2752 2. If any domestic corporation fails to pay by the due date of the year assessed the annual 2753 registration fee, the Commission shall mail notice to the corporation of *its* impending termination of *its* 2754 corporate existence. The corporate existence of the corporation shall be automatically terminated if any 2755 such fee is unpaid as of the last day of the fourth month immediately following the due date of that 2756 year, and its properties and affairs shall pass automatically to its directors as trustees in liquidation. The 2757 trustees shall then proceed to (i) collect the assets of the corporation, and (ii) pay, satisfy, and discharge 2758 its liabilities and obligations and do all other acts required to liquidate its business and affairs. After 2759 paying or adequately providing for the payment of all of its obligations, the trustees shall distribute the 2760 remainder of its assets in accordance with § 13.1-907.

2761 C. If any domestic corporation whose registered agent has filed with the Commission his statement 2762 of resignation pursuant to § 13.1-835 fails to file a statement of change pursuant to § 13.1-834 within thirty-one 31 days after the date on which the statement of resignation was filed, the Commission shall 2763 mail notice to the corporation of impending termination of its corporate existence. If the corporation 2764

2765 fails to file the statement of change before the last day of the second month immediately following the 2766 month in which the impending termination notice was mailed, the corporate existence of the corporation shall be automatically terminated as of that day and its properties and affairs shall pass automatically to 2767 2768 its directors as trustees in liquidation. The trustees shall then proceed as specified in subdivision B 2 of

2769 this section.

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§ 13.1-915. Involuntary termination of corporate existence.

2771 A. The corporate existence of a corporation may be terminated involuntarily by order of the 2772 Commission when it finds that the corporation (i) has continued to exceed or abuse the authority 2773 conferred upon it by law; (ii) has failed to maintain a registered office or a registered agent in this the 2774 Commonwealth as required by law; or (iii) has failed to file any document required by this chapter Act to be filed with the Commission. Upon such termination, the properties and affairs of the corporation 2775 shall pass automatically to its directors as trustees in liquidation. The trustees then shall proceed to 2776 2777 collect the assets of the corporation, and pay, satisfy and discharge its liabilities and obligations and do all other acts required to liquidate its business and affairs. After paying or adequately providing for the 2778 2779 payment of all its obligations, the trustees shall distribute the remainder of its assets in accordance with 2780 § 13.1-907.

2781 B. Before entering any such order the Commission shall issue a rule against the corporation giving it 2782 an opportunity to be heard and show cause why such an order should not be entered. The Commission 2783 may issue the rule on its own motion or on motion of the Attorney General. 2784

§ 13.1-916. Reinstatement of a corporation that has ceased to exist.

2785 A corporation that has ceased to exist may apply to the Commission for reinstatement within five 2786 years thereafter unless the corporate existence was terminated by order of the Commission (i) upon a 2787 finding that the corporation has continued to exceed or abuse the authority conferred upon it by law or (ii) entered pursuant to § 13.1-911 and the circuit court's decree directing dissolution contains no 2788 provision for of reinstatement of corporate existence. The Commission shall enter an order reinstating 2789 2790 the corporate existence upon receiving an annual report together with payment of a reinstatement fee of 2791 \$10 plus all registration fees and penalties that were due before the corporation ceased to exist and that 2792 would have become due thereafter if the corporation had not ceased to exist. An annual report need not 2793 be submitted if such a report previously was filed during the calendar year in which reinstatement is 2794 sought. The application for reinstatement may be by letter signed by an officer or director of the 2795 corporation or may be signed by affidavit by any member stating that after diligent search by such 2796 member no officer or director could be found. The Commission shall assess the amounts that would 2797 have become due. Upon the entry by the Commission of an order of reinstatement, the corporate 2798 existence shall be deemed to have continued from the date of the termination of corporate existence, and 2799 any liability incurred by the corporation or a director, officer, or other agent after termination of 2800 corporate existence and before the reinstatement shall be determined as if the termination of corporate 2801 existence had never occurred. If the name of a corporation that has ceased to exist is not distinguishable 2802 upon the records of the Commission, the reinstated corporation shall not engage in business until it has 2803 amended its articles of incorporation to change its name to a name that is distinguishable upon the 2804 records of the Commission.

§ 13.1-917. Survival of remedy after termination of corporate existence.

2806 The termination of corporate existence shall not take away or impair any remedy available to or 2807 against such the corporation, its directors, officers or members, for any right or claim existing, or any 2808 liability incurred, prior to such termination. Any such action or proceeding by or against the corporation 2809 may be prosecuted or defended by the corporation in its corporate name. The members, directors and 2810 officers shall have power to take such corporate or other action as shall be appropriate to protect such 2811 remedy, right or claim.

§ 13.1-919. Authority to transact business required.

2813 A. A foreign corporation may not transact business in this the Commonwealth until it obtains a 2814 certificate of authority from the Commission.

2815 B. The following activities, among others, do not constitute transacting business within the meaning 2816 of subsection A of this section:

1. Maintaining, defending, or settling any proceeding;

2818 2. Holding meetings of the board of directors or members or carrying on other activities concerning 2819 internal corporate affairs;

2820 3. Maintaining bank accounts;

2821 4. Selling through independent contractors;

2822 5. Soliciting or obtaining orders, whether by mail or through employees or agents or otherwise, if the 2823 orders require acceptance outside this the Commonwealth before they become contracts;

2824 6. Creating or acquiring indebtedness, deeds of trust, and security interests in real or personal 2825 property;

2826 7. Securing or collecting debts or enforcing deeds of trust and security interests in property securing

2827 the debts;

2828 8. Owning, without more, real or personal property;

2829 9. Conducting an isolated transaction that is completed within thirty 30 days and that is not one in 2830 the course of repeated transactions of a like nature; or

2831 10. For a period of less than ninety consecutive days, producing, directing, filming, crewing or acting 2832 in motion picture feature films, television series or commercials, or promotional films which are sent 2833 outside of the Commonwealth for processing, editing, marketing and distribution; or

2834 11. Serving, without more, as a general partner of or as a partner in a partnership that is a general 2835 partner of a domestic or foreign limited partnership that does not otherwise transact business in the 2836 Commonwealth.

2837 C. The list of activities in subsection B of this section is not exhaustive.

2838 § 13.1-920. Consequences of transacting business without authority.

2839 A. A foreign corporation transacting business in this the Commonwealth without a certificate of authority may not maintain a proceeding in any court of this in the Commonwealth until it obtains a 2840 2841 certificate of authority.

2842 B. Notwithstanding subsections A and C of this section, the failure of a foreign corporation to obtain 2843 a certificate of authority shall does not impair the validity of its corporate acts or prevent it from 2844 defending any proceeding in this the Commonwealth.

2845 C. The successor to a foreign corporation that transacted business in this the Commonwealth without 2846 a certificate of authority and the assignee of a cause of action arising out of that business may not 2847 maintain a proceeding based on that cause of action in any court in this the Commonwealth until the 2848 foreign corporation or its successor obtains a certificate of authority.

2849 D. A court may stay a proceeding commenced by a foreign corporation, its successor, or assignee 2850 until it determines whether the foreign corporation or its successor requires a certificate of authority. If it 2851 so determines, the court shall further stay the proceeding until the foreign corporation or its successor 2852 obtains the certificate.

2853 ED. If a foreign corporation transacts business in this the Commonwealth without a certificate of 2854 authority, each officer, director or, and employee who transacts does any of such business in this the 2855 Commonwealth knowing that a certificate of authority is required shall be liable for a penalty of not less 2856 than \$500 and not more than \$5,000. Any such penalty may be imposed by the Commission or by any 2857 court in the Commonwealth before which an action against the corporation may lie, after notice and 2858 opportunity to be heard both to the corporation and to the individual have been given notice and an 2859 opportunity to be heard.

2860 FE. Suits, actions and proceedings may be begun against a foreign corporation that transacts business 2861 in this the Commonwealth without a certificate of authority by serving process on any director, officer or agent of the corporation doing such business, or, if none can be found, on the clerk of the 2862 2863 Commission or on the corporation in any other manner permitted by law. If any foreign corporation 2864 transacts business in this the Commonwealth without a certificate of authority, it shall by transacting 2865 such business be deemed to have thereby appointed the clerk of the Commission its attorney for service 2866 of process. Service upon the clerk shall be made on the clerk in accordance with § 12.1-19.1.

2867 § 13.1-921. Application for certificate of authority.

2868 A. A foreign corporation may apply to the Commission for a certificate of authority to transact 2869 business in the Commonwealth. The application shall be made on forms prescribed and furnished by the 2870 Commission. The application shall set forth:

2871 1. The name of the corporation, and if the corporation is prevented by § 13.1-924 from using its own 2872 name in the Commonwealth, a designated name that satisfies the requirements of subsection B of 2873 § 13.1-924-;

2874 2. The name of the state or other jurisdiction under whose laws it is incorporated; and if the 2875 corporation was previously authorized or registered to transact business in the Commonwealth as a 2876 foreign corporation, limited liability company, business trust, limited partnership, or registered limited 2877 liability partnership, with respect to every such prior authorization or registration, (i) the name of the 2878 entity; (ii) the entity type; (iii) the state or other jurisdiction of incorporation, organization, or formation; 2879 and (iv) the entity identification number issued to it by the Commission-;

2880 3. The date of incorporation and the period of duration of the corporation.; 2881

4. The street address of the foreign corporation's principal office.;

2882 5. The address of the proposed registered office of the foreign corporation in the Commonwealth, 2883 (including both (i) the post office address with street and number, if any, and (ii) the name of the 2884 county or city in which it is located), and the name of its proposed registered agent in the 2885 Commonwealth at such address and that the registered agent is either (a) an individual who is a resident 2886 of Virginia and either an officer or director of the corporation or a member of the Virginia State Bar or 2887 (b) a domestic or foreign stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, or registered limited

2888 liability partnership authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth, the business office of which is 2889 identical with the registered office-; and

2890 6. The names and usual business addresses of the current directors and officers of the foreign 2891 corporation.

2892 B. The foreign corporation shall deliver to the Commission with the completed application a copy of 2893 its articles of incorporation and all amendments thereto, duly authenticated by the proper Secretary of 2894 State or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or other jurisdiction under whose 2895 laws it is incorporated.

2896 C. If the Commission finds that such the application complies with the requirements of law, and that 2897 all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of authority to transact business in the 2898 Commonwealth.

2899 § 13.1-922. Amended certificate of authority.

2900 A. A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth shall obtain an 2901 amended certificate of authority from the Commission if it changes its corporate name or the state or 2902 country of its incorporation.

2903 B. The requirements of § 13.1-921 for obtaining an original certificate of authority apply to obtaining 2904 an amended certificate under this section.

C. Whenever the articles of incorporation of a foreign corporation that is authorized to transact 2905 2906 business in this Commonwealth Virginia are amended, within thirty 30 days after the amendment 2907 becomes effective, the foreign corporation shall file with the Commission a copy of such amendment 2908 duly authenticated by the proper Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records 2909 in the state or country under whose laws law it is incorporated. 2910

§ 13.1-923. Effect of certificate of authority.

A. A certificate of authority authorizes the foreign corporation to which it is issued to transact 2911 2912 business in this the Commonwealth, subject, however, to the right of this the Commonwealth to revoke 2913 the certificate as provided in this chapter Act.

2914 B. A foreign corporation holding a valid certificate of authority shall have no greater rights and 2915 privileges than a domestic corporation. The certificate of authority shall not be deemed to authorize it to 2916 exercise any of its corporate powers or purposes that a foreign corporation is forbidden by law to 2917 exercise in this the Commonwealth.

2918 C. This Act does not authorize this the Commonwealth to regulate the organization or internal affairs 2919 of a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth. 2920

§ 13.1-924. Corporate name of foreign corporation.

2921 A. No certificate of authority shall be issued to a foreign corporation unless the corporate name of 2922 such corporation:

2923 1. Shall not contain any word or phrase that indicates or implies that it is organized for the purpose 2924 of conducting any business other than a business that it is authorized to conduct.

2925 2. Except as authorized by subsection  $\mathbf{B}$  of this section, the name C, shall be distinguishable upon 2926 the records of the Commission from:

2927 a. The name of any corporation, whether issuing shares or not issuing shares, existing under the laws 2928 of this the Commonwealth or authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth; 2929

b. A corporate name reserved or registered under § 13.1-631, 13.1-632, 13.1-830 or 13.1-831;

2930 c. The designated name adopted by a foreign corporation, whether issuing shares or not issuing 2931 shares, because its real name is unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth;

2932 d. The name of a domestic limited liability company or a foreign limited liability company registered 2933 to transact business in this the Commonwealth; 2934

e. A limited liability company name reserved under § 13.1-1013;

2935 f. The designated name adopted by a foreign limited liability company because its real name is 2936 unavailable for use in this the Commonwealth;

2937 g. The name of a domestic business trust or a foreign business trust registered to transact business in 2938 this the Commonwealth; 2939

h. A business trust name reserved under § 13.1-1215;

2940 i. The designated name adopted by a foreign business trust because its real name is unavailable for 2941 use in this the Commonwealth:

2942 j. The name of a domestic limited partnership or a foreign limited partnership registered to transact 2943 business in this the Commonwealth; 2944

k. A limited partnership name reserved under § 50-73.3; and

2945 1. The designated name adopted by a foreign limited partnership because its real name is unavailable 2946 for use in this the Commonwealth.

B. If the corporate name of a foreign corporation does not satisfy the requirements of subsection A 2947 2948 of this section, to obtain or maintain a certificate of authority to transact business in this the 2949 Commonwealth, if its real name is unavailable, the foreign corporation may use a designated name that

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2950 is available if it informs the Commission of the designated name.

2951 C. A foreign corporation may apply to the Commission for authorization to use in this the 2952 Commonwealth the name of another corporation, incorporated or authorized to transact business in this 2953 the Commonwealth, that is not distinguishable upon its records from the name applied for. The 2954 Commission shall authorize use of the name applied for if:

2955 4. The the other entity consents to the use in writing and submits an undertaking in form satisfactory 2956 to the Commission to change its name to a name that is distinguishable upon the records of the 2957 Commission from the name of the applying corporation.

2958 2. [Repealed.]

2959 D. If a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth changes its 2960 *corporate* name to one that does not satisfy the requirements of this section, it shall may not transact 2961 business or affairs in this the Commonwealth under the changed name until it adopts a name satisfying 2962 the requirements of this section and obtains an amended certificate of authority under § 13.1-922.

2963 E. The Commission, in determining whether a corporate name is distinguishable upon its records 2964 from the name of any of the business entities listed in subdivision A 2, shall not consider any word, 2965 phrase, abbreviation, or designation required or permitted under § 13.1-544.1, subsection A of 2966 § 13.1-630, subsection A of § 13.1-1012, § 13.1-1104, subdivision 1 of § 50-73.2, and subdivision A 2 2967 of § 50-73.78 to be contained in the name of a business entity formed or organized under the laws of 2968 this the Commonwealth or authorized or registered to transact business in this the Commonwealth.

2969 § 13.1-925. Registered office and registered agent of foreign corporation.

2970 A. Each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth shall 2971 continuously maintain in this the Commonwealth: 2972

1. A registered office, *which* may be the same as any of its places of business.

2973 2. A registered agent, who shall be:

2974 a. An individual who is a resident of this Commonwealth Virginia and either an officer or director of 2975 the corporation or a member of the Virginia State Bar, and whose business office is identical with the 2976 registered office; or

2977 b. A domestic or foreign stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company or registered 2978 limited liability partnership authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth, the business office 2979 of which is identical with the registered office; provided such a registered agent (i) shall not be its own 2980 registered agent and (ii) shall designate by instrument in writing, acknowledged before a notary public, 2981 one or more natural persons at the office of the registered agent upon whom any process, notice or 2982 demand may be served and shall continuously maintain at least one such person at that office. Whenever 2983 any such person accepts service, a photographic copy of such instrument shall be attached to the return.

2984 B. The sole duty of the registered agent is to forward to the corporation at its last known address any 2985 process, notice or demand *that is* served on the registered agent. 2986

§ 13.1-926. Change of registered office or registered agent of a foreign corporation.

2987 A. A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth may change its 2988 registered office or registered agent by filing with the Commission a statement of change that sets forth: 2989 1. The name of the foreign corporation-;

2990 2. The address of its current registered office.;

2991 3. If the current registered office is to be changed, the address of the new registered office, 2992 (including both (i) the post-office address with street and number, if any, and (ii) the name of the city 2993 or county in which it is to be located).;

2994 4. The name of its current registered agent-:

2995 5. If its the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent-; and

2996 6. That after the change or changes are made, the corporation shall will be in compliance with the 2997 requirements of § 13.1-925.

2998 B. A new statement shall forthwith be filed by the corporation whenever its registered agent dies, 2999 resigns or ceases to satisfy the requirements of § 13.1-925.

3000 C. If (i) the business address of a registered agent changes to another place within this the 3001 Commonwealth, (ii) the name of a registered agent changes, or (iii) a registered agent merges into an 3002 entity that is qualified to serve as a registered agent pursuant to § 13.1-925, the registered agent or 3003 surviving entity shall forthwith file a statement as required above except that it need be signed only by 3004 the registered agent or the surviving entity and shall recite *contain a statement* that a copy of the 3005 statement has been mailed to the corporation on whose behalf it is to be filed.

3006 § 13.1-927. Resignation of registered agent of foreign corporation.

3007 A. The registered agent of a foreign corporation may resign his agency appointment by signing and 3008 filing with the Commission his statement of resignation accompanied by his a certification that he has 3009 mailed a copy thereof to the principal office of the corporation by certified mail. The statement of resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued. 3010

3011 B. The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on 3012 the thirty-first day after the date on which the statement was filed.

3013 § 13.1-928. Service of process on foreign corporation.

3014 A. The registered agent of a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the 3015 Commonwealth shall be an agent of such corporation upon whom any process, notice, order or demand 3016 required or permitted by law to be served upon the corporation may be served. The registered agent 3017 may, by a written instrument in writing, acknowledged before a notary public, designate a natural person or persons in the office of the registered agent's office agent upon whom any such process, notice, order 3018 3019 or demand may be served. Whenever any such person accepts service of process, a photographic copy 3020 of such instrument shall be attached to the return.

3021 B. Whenever a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth fails to 3022 appoint or maintain a registered agent in this the Commonwealth, or whenever its registered agent 3023 cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office, then the clerk of the Commission 3024 shall be an agent of the corporation upon whom service may be made in accordance with § 12.1-19.1.

3025 C. Nothing in this section shall limit or affect the right to serve any process, notice, order or 3026 demand, required or permitted by law to be served upon a corporation in any other manner now or 3027 hereafter permitted by law.

§ 13.1-928.1. Merger of foreign corporation authorized to transact business in Commonwealth.

3029 A. Whenever a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth is a 3030 party to a merger permitted by the laws of the state or country other jurisdiction under whose laws it is 3031 incorporated, and such corporation is the surviving corporation entity of the merger, it shall, within thirty 3032 30 days after such merger becomes effective, file with the Commission a copy of the articles instrument 3033 of merger duly authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or country other jurisdiction under whose laws such merger was effected; however, 3034 3035 the filing shall not be required when a foreign corporation merges with a domestic corporation, the 3036 foreign corporation's articles of incorporation are not amended by said merger, and the articles of merger 3037 filed on behalf of the domestic corporation pursuant to § 13.1-896 contain a statement that the merger is 3038 permitted under the laws of the state or other jurisdiction in which the foreign corporation is 3039 incorporated and that the foreign corporation has complied with that law in effecting the merger.

3040 B. Whenever a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth is a 3041 party to a merger permitted by the laws of the state or country other jurisdiction under the laws of 3042 which it is incorporated, and such corporation is not the surviving corporation, or entity of the merger 3043 or, whenever such a foreign corporation is a party to a consolidation so permitted, the surviving or 3044 resulting domestic or foreign corporation, limited liability company, business trust, partnership, or 3045 *limited partnership* shall, if not continuing to transact business in this the Commonwealth, within thirty 3046 30 days after such merger or consolidation becomes effective, deliver to the Commission a <del>duly</del> 3047 authenticated copy of the instrument of merger or consolidation duly authenticated by the Secretary of 3048 State or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or other jurisdiction under whose 3049 laws such merger or consolidation was effected and comply in behalf of the predecessor corporation 3050 with the provisions of § 13.1-929. If the a surviving or resulting corporation or limited liability 3051 company, business trust, partnership, or limited partnership is to continue to transact business in this the 3052 Commonwealth and has not received a certificate of authority to transact business in the 3053 Commonwealth, within such thirty 30 days, deliver to the Commission an application for a certificate of 3054 authority to transact business in this the Commonwealth, together with a duly authenticated copy of the 3055 instrument of merger or consolidation and also, in case of a merger, a copy of its articles of incorporation and all amendments thereto, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official 3056 3057 having custody of corporate records in the state or country under whose laws it is incorporated.

C. Upon the merger or consolidation of two or more foreign corporations any one of which owns 3058 3059 property in this the Commonwealth, all such property shall pass to the surviving or resulting corporation 3060 except as otherwise provided by the laws of the state by which it is governed, but only from the time 3061 when a duly authenticated copy of the instrument of merger or consolidation is filed with the 3062 Commission. 3063

§ 13.1-929. Withdrawal of foreign corporation.

3064 A. A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth may not 3065 withdraw from this the Commonwealth until it obtains a certificate of withdrawal from the Commission.

3066 B. A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth may apply to the 3067 Commission for a certificate of withdrawal. The application shall be on forms prescribed and furnished 3068 by the Commission and shall set forth:

1. The name of the foreign corporation and the name of the state or country under whose laws it is 3069 3070 incorporated -:

3071 2. That the foreign corporation is not transacting business in this the Commonwealth and that it 3072 surrenders its authority to transact business in this the Commonwealth.;

3073 3. That the foreign corporation revokes the authority of its registered agent to accept service on its 3074 behalf and appoints the clerk of the Commission as its agent for service of process in any proceeding 3075 based on a cause of action arising during the time it was authorized to transact business in this the 3076 Commonwealth.;

3077 4. A mailing address to which the clerk of the Commission may mail a copy of any process served 3078 on him under subdivision 3 of this subsection.; and

3079 5. A commitment to notify in the future the clerk of the Commission in the future of any change in 3080 the *mailing* address of the corporation.

3081 C. The Commission shall not allow any foreign corporation to withdraw from the Commonwealth 3082 unless such corporation files with the Commission a statement certifying that the corporation has filed 3083 returns and has paid all state taxes to the time of the certificate or a statement that no such returns are 3084 required to be filed or taxes are required to be paid. In such case the corporation may file returns and 3085 pay taxes before they would otherwise be due. If the Commission finds that the application complies 3086 with the requirements of law and that all required fees have been paid, it shall issue a certificate of 3087 withdrawal.

3088 D. Before any foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth 3089 terminates its corporate existence, it shall file with the Commission an application for withdrawal. 3090 Whether or not such application is filed, the termination of *the* corporate existence of such foreign 3091 corporation shall not take away or impair any remedy available against such corporation for any right or 3092 claim existing or any liability incurred prior to such termination. Any such action or proceeding against 3093 such foreign corporation may be defended by such corporation in its corporate name. The members, 3094 directors and officers shall have power to take such corporate or other action as shall be appropriate to 3095 protect such remedy, right or claim. The right of a foreign corporation that has terminated its corporate 3096 existence to institute and maintain in its corporate name actions, suits or proceedings in the courts of 3097 this the Commonwealth shall be governed by the law of the state of its incorporation.

3098 E. Service of process on the clerk of the Commission is service of process on a foreign corporation 3099 that has withdrawn pursuant to this section and. Service upon the clerk shall be made upon the clerk in 3100 accordance with § 12.1-19.1, and service upon the foreign corporation may be made in any other 3101 manner permitted by law. 3102

§ 13.1-930. Automatic revocation of certificate of authority.

3103 A. If any foreign corporation fails to file the annual report required by this chapter Act in a timely 3104 manner, the Commission shall mail notice to it of impending revocation of its certificate of authority to 3105 transact business in this the Commonwealth. Whether or not such notice is mailed, if the corporation 3106 fails to file the annual report before the last day of the fourth month immediately following its annual 3107 report due date each year, the such foreign corporation shall automatically cease to be authorized to 3108 transact business in this the Commonwealth and its certificate of authority shall be automatically 3109 revoked as of that day.

3110 B. 1. Any foreign corporation shall pay the annual registration fee required by law on or before the 3111 corporation's annual report due date determined in accordance with subsection C of § 13.1-936 of each year. If the corporation pays the annual registration fee for the year assessed after such date of that year, 3112 3113 the corporation shall incur a penalty of ten dollars \$10.

3114 2. If any foreign corporation fails to pay by the due date of the year assessed the annual registration 3115 fee, the Commission shall mail notice to the corporation of impending revocation of its certificate of authority. The corporation shall automatically cease to be authorized to do business in this the 3116 3117 Commonwealth if any such fee is unpaid as of the last day of the fourth month immediately following 3118 the due date of that year, and its certificate of authority shall be automatically revoked.

3119 C. If any foreign corporation whose registered agent has filed with the Commission his statement of 3120 resignation pursuant to § 13.1-927 fails to file a statement of change pursuant to § 13.1-926 within 3121 thirty-one 31 days after the date on which the statement of resignation was filed, the Commission shall 3122 mail notice to the corporation of impending revocation of its certificate of authority. If the corporation 3123 fails to file the statement of change before the last day of the second month immediately following the 3124 month in which the impending revocation notice was mailed, the corporation shall automatically cease to 3125 be authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth and its certificate of authority shall be 3126 automatically revoked as of that day.

3127 § 13.1-931. Revocation of certificate of authority by Commission.

3128 A. The certificate of authority to transact business in this the Commonwealth of any foreign 3129 corporation may be revoked by order of the Commission when it finds that the corporation:

3130 1. Has continued to exceed the authority conferred upon it by law;

3131 2. Has failed to maintain a registered office or a registered agent in this the Commonwealth as 3132 required by law;

3133 3. Has failed to file any document required by this Act to be filed with the Commission; or 3134 4. No longer exists, by virtue of dissolution, termination, merger or consolidation under the laws of 3135 the state or country of its incorporation.

3136 B. Before entering any such order the Commission shall issue a rule against the corporation giving it 3137 an opportunity to be heard and show cause why such an order should not be entered. The Commission 3138 may issue the rule on its own motion or on motion of the Attorney General.

3139 C. The authority of a foreign corporation to transact business in this the Commonwealth ceases on 3140 the date shown on the certificate order revoking its certificate of authority.

D. The Commission's revocation of a foreign corporation's certificate of authority appoints the clerk 3141 3142 of the Commission the foreign corporation's agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a 3143 cause of action arising during the time the foreign corporation was authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth. Service of process on the clerk of the Commission under this subsection is service 3144 on the foreign corporation and shall be made on the clerk in accordance with § 12.1-19.1. 3145

3146 E. Revocation of a foreign corporation's certificate of authority does not terminate the authority of 3147 the registered agent of the corporation.

3148 § 13.1-931.1. Reentry of foreign corporation whose certificate of authority has been surrendered or 3149 revoked.

3150 A foreign corporation whose certificate of authority issued by the Commission has been surrendered 3151 or revoked may apply to the Commission for reentry within five years thereafter unless the certificate of 3152 authority was revoked by order of the Commission upon a finding that the corporation has continued to 3153 exceed or abuse the authority conferred upon it by law. The Commission shall enter an order reentering 3154 the certificate of authority upon receiving an annual report, together with payment of a reentry fee of 3155 \$10 plus all registration fees and penalties that were due before the certificate of authority was surrendered or revoked and that would have become due thereafter if the corporation had not had its 3156 certificate of authority surrendered or revoked. The application for reentry may be by letter signed by an 3157 3158 officer or director of the corporation. A corporation need not refile a copy of its charter or any amendment thereof that is then on file in the office of the Clerk clerk of the Commission. After the 3159 3160 authority of a foreign corporation to transact business in the Commonwealth has been surrendered or 3161 revoked, the Clerk clerk shall retain in the files of his office the charter and amendments thereto filed 3162 by the corporation and its original application for authority to transact business for a period of five 3163 years. A duly authenticated copy of any amendments made to the articles of incorporation by a foreign 3164 corporation and any mergers entered into by a foreign corporation from the date of surrender or revocation of its certificate of authority to the date of application for reentry shall be filed with the 3165 application for reentry. If the name of a foreign corporation, whose certificate of authority issued by the 3166 Commission has been surrendered or revoked, is not distinguishable upon the records of the Commission 3167 3168 at the time application is made for reentry, such foreign corporation shall adopt a designated name for 3169 use in the Commonwealth that is distinguishable upon the records of the Commission. Upon compliance 3170 with the provisions of this section the Commission shall enter an order reentering the certificate of 3171 authority to do business in the Commonwealth.

§ 13.1-932. Corporate records.

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3173 A. A corporation shall keep as permanent records minutes of all meetings of its members and board 3174 of directors, a record of all actions taken by the members or board of directors without a meeting, and a 3175 record of all actions taken by a committee of the board of directors in place of the board of directors on 3176 behalf of the corporation. 3177

B. A corporation shall maintain appropriate accounting records.

3178 C. A corporation or its agent shall maintain a record of its members, in a form that permits 3179 preparation of a list of the names and addresses of all members, in alphabetical order by class, if any.

3180 D. A corporation shall maintain its records in written form or in another form capable of conversion 3181 into written form within a reasonable time. 3182

E. A corporation shall keep a copy of the following records:

3183 1. Its articles or restated articles of incorporation and, all amendments to them currently in effect, 3184 and any notices to members referred to in subdivision L 5 of 13.1-804 regarding facts on which a 3185 filed document is dependent;

2. Its bylaws or restated bylaws and all amendments to them currently in effect;

3187 3. Resolutions adopted by its board of directors creating one or more classes of members, and fixing 3188 their relative rights, preferences, and limitations;

4. The minutes of all members' meetings, and records of all action taken by members without a 3189 3190 meeting, for the past three years;

3191 5. All written communications to members generally within the past three years;

3192 6. A list of the names and business addresses of its current directors and officers; and

3193 7. Its most recent annual report delivered to the Commission under § 13.1-936.

3194 § 13.1-933. Inspection of records by members.

3195 A. Subject to subsection C of § 13.1-934, a member of a corporation is entitled to inspect and copy,

3196 during regular business hours at the corporation's principal office, any of the records of the corporation 3197 described in subsection E of § 13.1-932 if he gives the corporation written notice of his demand at least 3198 five business days before the date on which he wishes to inspect and copy.

3199 B. A member of a corporation is entitled to inspect and copy, during regular business hours at a 3200 reasonable location specified by the corporation, any of the following records of the corporation if the 3201 member meets the requirements of subsection C of this section and gives the corporation written notice 3202 of *his* demand at least five business days before the date on which *he* wishes to inspect and copy:

3203 1. Excerpts from minutes of any meeting of the board of directors, records of any action of a 3204 committee of the board of directors while acting in place of the board of directors on behalf of the 3205 corporation, minutes of any meeting of the members, and records of action taken by the members or 3206 board of directors without a meeting, to the extent not subject to inspection under subsection A of this 3207 section:

3208 2. Accounting records of the corporation; and

3209 3. The record of members.

3210 C. A member may inspect and copy the records identified in subsection B of this section only if: 3211

1. He has been a member of record for at least six months immediately preceding his demand;

3212 2. *His* demand is made in good faith and for a proper purpose;

3213 3. He describes with reasonable particularity his purpose and the records that he desires to inspect; 3214 and

3215 4. The records are directly connected with *his* purpose.

3216 D. The right of inspection granted by this section may not be abolished or limited by a corporation's 3217 articles of incorporation or bylaws.

3218 E. This section does not affect:

3219 1. The right of a member to inspect records if the member is in litigation with the corporation, to the 3220 same extent as any other litigant; or

3221 2. The power of a court, independently of this Act, to compel the production of corporate records for 3222 examination. 3223

§ 13.1-934. Scope of inspection right.

3224 A. A member's agent or attorney has the same inspection and copying rights as the member he 3225 represents.

3226 B. The right to copy records under § 13.1-933 includes, if reasonable, the right to receive copies 3227 made by photographic xerographic or other means, including copies through an electronic transmission 3228 if available and so requested by the member.

3229 C. The corporation may impose a reasonable charge, covering the costs of labor and material, for 3230 copies of any documents provided to the member. The charge may not exceed the estimated cost of 3231 production or, reproduction, and transmission of the records.

3232 D. The corporation may comply with a member's demand to inspect the record of members under subdivision B 3 of subsection B of § 13.1-933 by providing him the member with a list of its members 3233 3234 that was compiled no earlier than the date of the member's demand. 3235

§ 13.1-935.1. Inspection of records by directors.

3236 A. A director of a corporation is entitled to inspect and copy the books, records, and documents of 3237 the corporation at any reasonable time to the extent reasonably related to the performance of his duties 3238 as a director, including duties as a member of a committee, but not for any other purpose or in any 3239 manner that would violate any duty to the corporation.

3240 B. The circuit court of the city or county where the corporation's principal office or, if none in the Commonwealth, its registered office is located may order inspection and copying of the books, records, 3241 3242 and documents upon application of a director who has been refused such inspection rights, unless the 3243 corporation establishes that the director is not entitled to such inspection rights. The court shall dispose 3244 of an application under this subsection on an expedited basis.

3245 C. If an order is issued, the court may include provisions protecting the corporation from undue 3246 burden or expense and prohibiting the director from using information obtained upon exercise of the 3247 inspection rights in a manner that would violate a duty to the corporation and may also order the 3248 corporation to reimburse the director for his reasonable costs, including reasonable counsel fees, 3249 incurred in connection with the application if the director proves that the corporation refused inspection 3250 without a reasonable basis for doubt about the director's right to inspect the records demanded.

3251 § 13.1-936. Annual report of domestic and foreign corporations.

3252 A. Each domestic corporation, and each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this the 3253 Commonwealth, shall file, within the time prescribed by this chapter section, an annual report setting 3254 forth:

3255 1. The name of the corporation, the address of its principal office and the state or country under 3256 whose laws it is incorporated.

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3257 2. The address of the registered office of the corporation in this the Commonwealth (including both 3258 (i) the post-office address with street and number, if any, and (ii) the name of the county or city in 3259 which it is located), and the name of its registered agent in this the Commonwealth at such address. 3260

3. The names and post-office addresses of the directors and the principal officers of the corporation.

3261 B. The report shall be made on forms furnished by the Commission, and shall supply the information 3262 as of the date of the report.

3263 C. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the annual report of a domestic or foreign 3264 corporation shall be filed with the Commission by the last day of the twelfth month next succeeding the date it was incorporated or authorized to transact business in this the Commonwealth, and by such date 3265 3266 in each year thereafter. The report shall be filed no earlier than three months prior to its due date each year. If the report appears to be incomplete or inaccurate, the Commission shall return it for correction 3267 3268 or explanation. Otherwise the Commission shall file it in the clerk's office. At the discretion of the Commission the annual report due date for a corporation may be extended, on a monthly basis for a 3269 3270 period of not less than one month nor more than eleven 11 months, at the request of its registered agent 3271 of record or as may be necessary to distribute annual report due dates of corporations as equally as 3272 practicable throughout the year on a monthly basis. 3273

§ 13.1-936.1. Annual registration fees for domestic and foreign corporations.

3274 A. Every domestic corporation and every foreign corporation authorized to conduct its affairs in this 3275 the Commonwealth shall pay into the state treasury by its due date each calendar year an annual 3276 registration fee of twenty-five dollars \$25.

3277 The annual registration fee shall be irrespective of any specific license tax or other tax or fee 3278 imposed by law upon the corporation for the privilege of conducting carrying on its affairs business in 3279 this the Commonwealth or upon its franchise, property or receipts. Nonstock corporations incorporated 3280 before 1970 which were not liable for the annual registration fee therefor shall not be liable for an 3281 annual registration fee hereafter.

3282 B. The State Corporation Commission shall ascertain from its records each corporation authorized to 3283 conduct its affairs in this the Commonwealth, as of the first day of the second month next preceding the 3284 month of the corporation's annual registration fee due date each year, and shall assess against each 3285 corporation the registration fee herein imposed. In any year in which a corporation's due date is 3286 extended pursuant to this chapter Act the registration fee assessment shall be increased by a prorated 3287 amount to cover the period of extension. A statement of the assessment, when made, shall be forwarded 3288 by the Clerk clerk of the State Corporation Commission to the Comptroller and to each corporation.

3289 C. Any corporation which fails to pay the registration fee herein imposed within the time prescribed 3290 shall incur a penalty as provided in subdivision B 1 of § 13.1-914 or in § 13.1-930, as the case may be, 3291 which shall be added to the amount of the registration fee. The penalty shall be in addition to any other 3292 penalty or liability provided by law.

3293 D. The fees paid into the state treasury under this section shall be set aside as a special fund to be 3294 used only by the State Corporation Commission as it deems necessary to defray all costs of staffing, 3295 maintaining and operating the office of the Clerk clerk of the Commission, together with all other costs 3296 incurred by the Commission in supervising, implementing and administering the provisions of Part 5 3297 (§ 8.9A-501 et seq.) of Title 8.9A, this title, except for Chapters 5 (§ 13.1-501 et seq.) and 8 (§ 13.1-557 et seq.) and Article 6 (§ 55-142.1 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 55, provided that one-half of the fees 3298 3299 collected shall be credited to the general fund. The excess of fees collected over the projected costs of 3300 administration in the next fiscal year shall be paid into the general fund prior to the close of the fiscal 3301 year. 3302

§ 13.1-939. Saving provision.

3303 A. Except as provided in subsection B of this section, the repeal of a statute by this Act does not 3304 affect: 3305

1. The operation of the statute or any action taken under it before its repeal;

3306 2. Any ratification, right, remedy, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued, or incurred 3307 under the statute before its repeal;

3308 3. Any violation of the statute, or any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred because of the 3309 violation, before its repeal; or

3310 4. Any proceeding commenced, or reorganization or dissolution authorized by the board of directors, 3311 under the statute before its repeal, and the proceeding, reorganization or dissolution may be completed 3312 in accordance with the statute as if it had not been repealed.

3313 B. If a penalty or punishment imposed for violation of a statute repealed by this Act is reduced by 3314 this Act, the penalty or punishment if not already imposed shall be imposed in accordance with this Act. 3315 § 55-532. Obligations of nonprofit entity.

Prior to disposition of assets, any nonprofit entity shall provide to the Attorney General written 3316 notice, on a form provided by the Attorney General, of its intent to dispose of such assets, including the 3317 3318 terms of the proposal. The notice shall be given at least sixty days in advance of the effective date of

such proposed transaction in order that the Attorney General may exercise his common law and statutory
authority over the activities of these organizations. The Attorney General may employ expert assistance
in reviewing any proposed transaction and such reasonable expenses incurred by the Attorney General
shall be paid by a party to the proposed transaction.

Within ten days of receipt of the notice from the entity, the Attorney General shall cause a public notice of the transaction to be published in a newspaper in which legal notices may be published in that jurisdiction.

Notice to the Attorney General pursuant to this section shall be given for State Corporation
Commission approval sought pursuant to Article 11 (§ 13.1-898.1 13.1-894) of Chapter 10 of Title 13.1
and §§ 38.2-203 and 38.2-1322 through 38.2-1328 and subdivision A 1 of § 38.2-4316. Such notice need
not be given where the State Corporation Commission determines, in its sole discretion, that there is a
reasonable expectation that the foreign or domestic nonstock corporation licensed and subject to
regulation under Chapter 42 (§ 38.2-4200 et seq.) of Title 38.2 or health maintenance organization
referenced herein will not be able to meet its obligations to subscribers or enrollees.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to any disposition of assets subject to the provisions of \$3334 § 38.2-4214.1, or § 38.2-4317 or any of the provisions of Chapter 15 (§ 38.2-1500 et seq.) of Title 38.2.
That § 13.1-890, 13.1-898, and 13.1-898.1 of the Code of Virginia are repealed.

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