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1   **HOUSE BILL NO. 508**
2   Offered January 9, 2008
3   Prefiled January 7, 2008
4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-3213.1, relating to approval*
5 *   of annexation by referendum.*
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                Patron—Hamilton

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8   Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns
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10   **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**
11 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-3213.1 as follows:**
12   *§ 15.2-3213.1. Approval of annexation by referendum.*
13   *In any annexation initiated by a city pursuant to § 15.2-3202, if the initiating city has not declined*
14 *the terms and conditions of the annexation within 21 days as required under § 15.2-3213, simultaneous*
15 *referenda shall be held in all affected localities prior to the annexation becoming effective.*
16   *The appropriate circuit courts shall, by order entered of record in each county and city, require the*
17 *regular election officers of the locality on the day fixed in the order, issued in accordance with Article 5*
18 *(§ 24.2-681 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2, which date shall fall on the first possible November*
19 *general election and shall be the same in each of the localities, to open a poll and take the sense of the*
20 *voters of each locality on the question submitted as hereinafter provided.*
21   *The regular election officers, at the time designated in the order authorizing the vote, shall open the*
22 *polls at the various voting places in their respective localities and conduct the election in such manner*
23 *as is provided by general law for other elections insofar as the same is applicable. The ballots for each*
24 *county, including the towns therein, and for each city shall be prepared by the electoral boards thereof*
25 *and distributed to the various election precincts thereof as provided by law. The ballots used shall be*
26 *printed and shall contain the following:*
27   *"Shall the proposed annexation between. . . . . (here insert the names of localities) be*
28 *approved?*
29   *_ Yes*
30   *_ No"*
31   *If two-thirds of voters in each of the affected localities approve the proposed annexation, the*
32 *annexation shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. If the proposed annexation*
33 *fails to receive a two-thirds vote in the affirmative in any of the affected localities, the annexation shall*
34 *not proceed and the special court shall not enter a decree granting the petition for annexation.*