

2008 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 64

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled December 7, 2007

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 24.2-623.1, relating to elections; posting notice of voting qualifications and penalties at polling places.*

Patron—Marshall, R.G.

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 24.2-623.1 as follows:

§ 24.2-623.1. *Notice of voting qualifications to be posted at polling places.*

The governing body of each county and city shall provide notice of the constitutional qualifications to vote and the penalties for voting in violation of the constitutional requirements in all polling places for all elections. These notices shall be printed with the heading "ILLEGAL VOTING" in two-inch type with the following text from the Constitution and Code in at least 24-point type.

"In elections by the people, the qualifications of voters shall be as follows: Each voter shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be eighteen years of age, shall fulfill the residence requirements set forth in this section, and shall be registered to vote pursuant to this article. No person who has been convicted of a felony shall be qualified to vote unless his civil rights have been restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. As prescribed by law, no person adjudicated to be mentally incompetent shall be qualified to vote until his competency has been reestablished."

"Under the Code of Virginia (§ 24.2-1004) it is a Class 1 misdemeanor to vote knowing that you are not qualified to vote, punishable by 'confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.'"

The governing body shall provide for the notices to be posted in at least the two most commonly spoken languages in the locality and may provide for notices in additional languages. The determination of the governing body as to the languages in which to post the notices shall be determinative and not subject to review.

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