

## 2008 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE BILL NO. 958

Offered January 9, 2008

Prefiled January 8, 2008

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-957.1, relating to local government authority; registration of non-owner occupied residential dwellings; civil penalty.*

Patron—Shannon

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

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

#### 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-957.1 as follows:

§ 15.2-957.1. *Registration of non-owner occupied residential dwellings; penalty.*

A. *Any locality may require all non-owner occupied residential dwellings to be registered on an annual basis. The registration of buildings shall be on forms designated by the locality and filed with the agency designated by the locality.*

B. *Failure to register shall be a \$50 civil penalty; however, failure to register in conservation and rehabilitation districts designated by the governing body, or in other areas designated as blighted pursuant to § 36-49.1:1, shall be punishable by a civil penalty not exceeding \$250. Notice shall be mailed to the owner or owners, at the address to which property tax notices are sent, at least 30 days prior to the assessment of the civil penalty.*

C. *As used in this section "non-owner occupied residential dwelling" means any residential dwelling units wherein the owner of such property does not reside and such dwelling unit is subject to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act (§ 55-248.2 et seq.).*

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