**3** 

**9** 

## 10102495D HOUSE BILL NO. 994

Offered January 13, 2010 Prefiled January 13, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.01, as amended, of Chapter 240 of the Acts of Assembly of 1954, which provided a charter for the Town of Christiansburg, relating to the date of mayoral and council member elections.

## Patron—Nutter

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. That § 2.01, as amended, of Chapter 240 of the Acts of Assembly of 1954 is amended and reenacted as follows:
- § 2.01. Vesting of administration and government in council; composition of council; election and term of council members; council to be continuing body; vacancies in council.
- (a) The council shall be elected in the manner provided by law. The mayor shall be elected for a term of four years and every four years thereafter.— The councilmen shall serve as members of the council for staggered terms of four years each. Three council members shall be elected on the November 2011 general election date and every four years thereafter. A mayor and three other council members shall be elected on the November 2013 general election date and every four years thereafter.

In the regular municipal election to be held in 1956, and every two years thereafter, three eouncilmen shall be elected for terms of four years each. Terms of office shall begin on the first day of September January next following their election. Each councilman council member and the mayor elected as hereinabove provided shall serve for the term stated or until his successor has been elected and qualified. The council shall be a continuing body, and no measure pending before such body shall abate or be discontinued by reason of expiration of term of office or removal of any of its members.

- (b) Vacancy in the council or in the office of mayor shall be filled within sixty days, for the unexpired term, by a majority vote of the remaining members; provided, that if the term of office to be filled does not expire for two years or more after the next regular election for councilman council member, following such vacancy and such vacancy occurs in time to permit it, then the council shall fill such vacancy only for the period then remaining until such election, and a qualified person shall then be elected by the qualified voters and shall from and after the date of his election and qualification succeed such appointee and serve the unexpired term. The number of candidates for council equal to the number of vacancies to be filled for full terms receiving the highest number of votes shall be entitled to such full terms and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall be entitled to the unexpired term caused by such vacancy.
- (c) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, any person shall be qualified to fill a vacancy on council or as mayor who is a resident of the town and is a qualified elector therein, except that a member of council shall not be qualified to fill a vacancy as mayor.