

2011 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 1412

Offered January 18, 2011

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-502 of the Code of Virginia, relating to composition of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.*

Patron—Martin

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-502 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 10.1-502. Soil and Water Conservation Board; composition.

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board is continued and shall perform the functions conferred upon it in this chapter. The Board shall consist of 12 voting members. The Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, or his designee, shall be a *nonvoting ex officio* member of the Board. ~~Three~~ Six at-large members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor. After the initial staggering of terms, nonlegislative citizen members shall be appointed for a term of four years. At least two of the ~~three~~ at-large members should have a demonstrated interest in natural resource conservation with a background or knowledge in dam safety, soil conservation, water quality protection, or urban point or nonpoint source pollution control. *At least three of the at-large members, by their education, training, or experience, shall be knowledgeable of stormwater management and shall be representative of business and local government interests.* Additionally, four members shall be farmers and two members shall be farmers or district directors, appointed by the Governor from a list of two qualified nominees for each vacancy submitted by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Soil and Water Conservation Board in joint session, each for a term of four years. All appointed members shall not serve more than two consecutive full terms. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be made in the same manner as described above, except that such appointments shall be for the unexpired terms only. The Board may invite the Virginia State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, to serve as an advisory nonvoting member. The Board shall keep a record of its official actions, shall adopt a seal and may perform acts, hold public hearings, and promulgate regulations necessary for the execution of its functions under this chapter.

2. That the provisions of this act shall not be construed to affect existing appointments for which the terms have not expired. However, any new appointments made after the effective date of this act shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this act.

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