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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1047**

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 11, 2012

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-603 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections; hours polls are open.*

Patrons—Keam, Hope and LeMunyon

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

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

**1. That § 24.2-603 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 24.2-603. Hours polls to be open; closing the polls.

A. At all elections, the polls shall be open at each polling place at 6:00 a.m. on the day of the election and closed at 7:00 p.m. on the same day except as provided for central absentee voter precincts pursuant to subsection F of § 24.2-712.

At 6:45 p.m. an officer of election shall announce that the polls will close in ~~fifteen~~ 15 minutes. The officers of election shall list the names of all qualified voters in line before the polling place at 7:00 p.m. and permit those voters and no others to vote after 7:00 p.m.

B. *The governing body of any county or city may provide by ordinance for the closing of the county or city polls at 8:00 p.m. on specified election days, and the pre-closing announcement shall be given at 7:45 p.m. The governing body of a county within which a town, or the greater part of a town, is situated may provide by ordinance for the closing of the town polls at 8:00 p.m. on specified election days, and the pre-closing announcement shall be given at 7:45 p.m.*

INTRODUCED

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