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HOUSE BILL NO. 1706

Offered January 9, 2013 Prefiled January 8, 2013

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18, as amended, of Chapter 34 of the Acts of Assembly of 1918, which provided a charter for the City of Norfolk, relating to elections.

Patron—Stolle

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18, as amended, of Chapter 34 of the Acts of Assembly of 1918 is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18. Time of holding municipal elections and conduct of elections.—A municipal election shall be held on the first Tuesday in May of the year 1992, and of every second year thereafter, which shall be known as the regular municipal election for the election of council members. Any matter which, by the terms of this charter, may be submitted to the electors of the city, at any special election, may be submitted at a regular municipal election.

An election to fill each of the ward and superward council seats shall be held at the regular municipal election in 1992. Those candidates elected from wards designated one through five shall serve on city council for a term beginning on the first day of July of the year 1992 and terminating two years hence or upon qualification of their successors. Those candidates elected from superwards designated six and seven shall serve on city council for terms beginning on the first day of July of the year 1992 and terminating four years hence or upon qualification of their successors. Thereafter, elections for council members from wards one through five shall be held every four years beginning on the first Tuesday in May, of the year 1994, and elections for superwards six and seven shall be held every four years beginning on the first Tuesday in May, of the year 1996, with persons so elected to begin their four-year terms on the first day of July following their election. Until July 1, 1992, the city council shall consist of the members of city council serving at the time of adoption of this amendment or their successors as provided in § 7 of this charter.

Beginning in the year 2006, there shall be an election for the office of mayor to be held at the regular municipal election that year. The candidate receiving the most votes from the qualified voters of the city voting at-large for said office shall be elected mayor to serve for a term of four years beginning July 1, 2006, or upon qualification of his or her successor. Thereafter, elections for the office of mayor shall be held every four years beginning on the first Tuesday in May of the year 2010, with persons so elected to begin their four-year terms on the first day of July following their election. However, persons elected mayor at the regular municipal election in 2014 shall be elected for a term of two years beginning July 1, 2014. Thereafter, elections for the office of mayor shall be held every four years beginning on the first Tuesday in May of the year 2016, with persons so elected to begin their four-year terms on the first day of July following their election.