

13102090D

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1921**

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 9, 2013

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 24.2-700.1, relating to absentee voting; declared emergency.*

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Patron—Herring

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Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 24.2-700.1 as follows:****§ 24.2-700.1. Persons entitled to vote absentee in case of declared emergency.**

*In the case of an emergency declared within 14 days of the date of an election, any registered voter whose voting precinct is within the area affected by the emergency may vote absentee in person or by mail in any election in which he is qualified to vote without providing one of the reasons for voting absentee enumerated in § 24.2-700. The Secretary of the State Board of Elections shall have the authority to designate alternative methods and procedures to handle absentee ballot applications and ballots when the applicable provisions of this chapter cannot be met because of the conditions or time frame of the emergency. Nothing in this section shall authorize the counting of any absentee ballot returned after the polls have closed.*

*For purposes of this section, "emergency" means (i) any emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to Chapter 3.2 (§ 44-146.13 et seq.) of Title 44 or (ii) any emergency declared by the President of the United States or the governor of another state pursuant to law and confirmed by the Governor by executive order as an emergency for purposes of this section.*

INTRODUCED

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