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HOUSE BILL NO. 1210

Offered January 17, 2014

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 24 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-2403.4, relating to community improvement districts.*

Patron—Hester

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 24 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-2403.4 as follows:

§ 15.2-2403.4. Community improvement districts.

A. In any city, a community improvement district may, in addition to the method prescribed in § 15.2-2400, be created by order of the circuit court for the city upon the petition of 50 voters of the proposed district, which order shall prescribe the metes and bounds of the district.

Upon the filing of a petition the court shall fix a date for a hearing on the question of the proposed community improvement district, which hearing shall embrace a consideration of whether the property embraced within the proposed district will be benefited by the establishment thereof. Notice of such hearing shall be published once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the city, and the hearing shall not be held sooner than 10 days after the last publication. Any person interested may answer the petition and make defense thereto. If upon such hearing the court is of opinion that any property embraced within the limits of such proposed district will not be benefited by the establishment thereof, then such property shall not be embraced therein.

B. Upon the petition of the city council and of not less than 50 voters of the territory proposed to be added, or if such territory contains less than 100 voters, of 50 percent of the voters of such territory, after notice and hearing as provided above, any community improvement district may be extended and enlarged by order of the circuit court for the city which order shall prescribe the metes and bounds of the territory so added.

C. After the creation of a community improvement district, the governing body of the locality within which the district is located shall have all powers with respect to the district that it possesses with respect to a service district.

D. To the extent the governing body of the locality provides to a community improvement district the governmental services authorized by subdivisions 1 and 2 of § 15.2-2403, the governing body shall contract with a nonprofit corporation, a majority of whose board members own property in the community improvement district, to provide such services.

INTRODUCED

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