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HOUSE BILL NO. 5

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled November 18, 2013

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 24.2-108 and 24.2-111 of the Code of Virginia, relating to compensation and expenses of electoral board members and general registrars.*

 Patron—Ware

 Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 24.2-108 and 24.2-111 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 24.2-108. Compensation and expenses of members.**

The General Assembly shall establish a compensation and expense plan in the general appropriation act for the secretaries and members of the electoral boards *that provides for the Commonwealth to reimburse the counties and cities for the full cost of the compensation and expenses of the secretaries and members of the electoral boards.* The governing body for the county or city of each electoral board shall pay *all of the compensation, and expenses, and including mileage in accordance with the plan, of the secretary and members of the electoral board and shall be reimbursed annually as authorized by the act for the full amount of such compensation and expenses, notwithstanding any provision of the general appropriation act to the contrary.* The reasonable costs of electoral board members attending annual training programs provided by the State Board shall be included in the expense plan for electoral boards.

Each electoral board member shall submit a written claim for mileage and expenses authorized by the plan. The claim, when filed and found to be correct, shall be paid by the county or city. The county or city shall pay claims for mileage at the rate payable to members of the General Assembly.

The governing body of any county or city may pay to the secretary of the electoral board any additional allowance for expenses it deems appropriate and may pay to a full-time secretary any additional compensation it deems appropriate.

Each county and city shall furnish necessary postage and office supplies for the electoral board.

§ 24.2-111. Compensation and expenses of general registrars.

The General Assembly shall establish a compensation *and expense* plan in the general appropriation act for the general registrars *that provides for the Commonwealth to reimburse the counties and cities for the full cost of the compensation and expenses of the general registrars.* The governing body for the county or city of each general registrar shall pay *all of the compensation in accordance with the plan and reasonable expenses of the general registrar and shall be reimbursed annually as authorized in the act for the full amount of such compensation and expenses, notwithstanding any provision of the general appropriation act to the contrary.* The governing body shall be required to provide benefits to the general and assistant registrars and staff as provided to other employees of the locality; and shall be authorized to supplement the salary of the general registrar to the extent provided in the act.

Each locality shall pay the reasonable expenses of the general registrar, including reimbursement for mileage at the rate payable to members of the General Assembly. In case of a dispute, the State Board shall approve or disapprove the reimbursement. Reasonable expenses include, but are not limited to, costs for: (i) an adequately trained registrar's staff, including training in the use of computers and other technology to the extent provided to other local employees with similar job responsibilities, and reasonable costs for the general registrar or at least one member of the registrar's staff to attend the annual training offered by the State Board; (ii) adequate training for officers of election; (iii) conducting elections as required by this title; and (iv) voter education.

INTRODUCED

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