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**HOUSE BILL NO. 706** 

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 7, 2014

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 30-9.1, relating to member of the General Assembly; standing to defend laws of the Commonwealth.

Patrons—Gilbert, Marshall, R.G., Adams, Albo, Anderson, Austin, Bell, Richard P., Bell, Robert B., Berg, Campbell, Chafin, Cline, Cole, Comstock, Cox, Davis, DeSteph, Edmunds, Fariss, Farrell, Fowler, Garrett, Greason, Habeeb, Head, Helsel, Hodges, Howell, W.J., Hugo, Kilgore, Knight, Landes, LaRock, Leftwich, LeMunyon, Lingamfelter, Loupassi, Marshall, D.W., Massie, Miller, Minchew, Morefield, Morris, O'Bannon, O'Quinn, Orrock, Peace, Pogge, Poindexter, Ramadan, Ransone, Robinson, Rush, Scott, Taylor, Ware, Webert, Wilt and Wright

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 30-9.1 as follows:

§ 30-9.1. Standing to defend laws of the Commonwealth.

In a proceeding in which the constitutionality, legality, or application of a law established under legislative authority is at issue and the Governor and Attorney General choose not to defend the law in such proceeding, a current member of the General Assembly at the commencement of the proceeding shall have the right to intervene as a party and shall have standing to represent the interests of the Commonwealth.

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.