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## HOUSE BILL NO. 2343

Offered January 23, 2015

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-501 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the feeding of game, game animals, and fur-bearing animals.

Patrons—Ramadan and Webert

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-501 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 29.1-501. Promulgation of regulations; feeding of wildlife; publication of proposed regulations or change therein; validation; evidentiary nature of publication.

A. The Board may promulgate regulations pertaining to the hunting, taking, capture, killing, possession, sale, purchase, and transportation of any wild bird, wild animal, or inland water fish, and the feeding of any game, game animals, or fur-bearing animals as defined in § 29.1-100, or the feeding of any wildlife that results in property damage, endangers any person or wildlife, or creates a public health concern. The Board shall allow the feeding of any game, game animals or fur-bearing animals on privately-owned land during the open and closed seasons for hunting or trapping of wildlife.

B. The full text or an informative summary of any proposed regulation or change in the regulations shall be published not less than fifteen 15 nor more than thirty 30 days before it may be acted upon. The publication shall name the time and place that the specified matters will be taken up, at which time any interested citizen shall be heard. If the proposed regulation or change in the regulations is of local application, the publication shall appear in a newspaper published in or within reasonable proximity to the affected locality. However, if the proposed regulation or change in the regulations is of statewide application, the publication shall be made in a sufficient number of newspapers having a general circulation throughout the entire Commonwealth.

C. A copy of proposed regulations or a change in the regulations, of either local application or statewide application, shall be published in the Virginia Register of Regulations pursuant to § 2.2-4031.

D. Prima facie evidence of any regulation may be given in all courts and proceedings by the production of a copy of the regulation, which shall be certified by the Director or his deputy.

INTRODUCED

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