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## SENATE BILL NO. 1288

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 14, 2015

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-112 of the Code of Virginia, relating to general registrars; assistant registrars.*

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Patron—Watkins

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Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 24.2-112 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 24.2-112. Assistants to general registrars; employees.**

The electoral board shall determine the number and set the term for assistant registrars; however, their terms shall not extend beyond the term set by law of the incumbent general registrar. The general registrar shall establish the duties of assistant registrars, appoint assistant registrars, and have authority to remove any assistant registrar who fails to discharge the duties of his office.

~~In Russell County, there shall be at least one full-time assistant registrar who shall serve in the office of the general registrar.~~

In any county or city whose population is over 15,500, there shall be at least one assistant registrar who shall serve at least one day each week in the office of the general registrar.

Any county or city whose population is 15,500 or less shall have at least one substitute registrar who is able to take over the duties of the general registrar in an emergency and who shall assist the general registrar when he requests.

All assistant registrars shall have the same limitations and qualifications and fulfill the same requirements as the general registrar except that (i) an assistant registrar may be an officer of election and (ii) an assistant registrar shall be a qualified voter of the Commonwealth but is not required to be a qualified voter of the county or city in which he serves as registrar. Candidates who are residents in the county or city for which they seek appointment may be given preference in hiring. Localities may mutually agree to share an assistant registrar among two or more localities. Assistant registrars who agree to serve without pay shall be supervised and trained by the general registrar.

All other employees shall be employed by the general registrar. The general registrar may hire additional temporary employees on a part-time basis as needed.

The compensation of any assistant registrar, other than those who agree to serve without pay, or any other employee of the general registrar shall be fixed and paid by the local governing body and shall be the equivalent of or exceed the minimum hourly wage established by federal law in 29 U.S.C. § 206 (a) (1), as amended.

The general registrar shall not appoint to the office of paid assistant registrar his spouse or any person, or the spouse of any person, who is his parent, grandparent, sibling, child, or grandchild.

INTRODUCED

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