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20 21 22 **HOUSE BILL NO. 118**

Offered January 13, 2016 Prefiled December 16, 2015

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-842 of the Code of Virginia, relating to urban county executive form of government; animal protection police officer.

Patron—Albo

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-842 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 15.2-842. Department of public safety.

The department of public safety, if and when established, shall be under the supervision of a director of public safety. Such department may consist of the following divisions:

- 1. Division of police, in the charge of a chief of police and consisting of such other police officers and personnel as may be appointed, including an animal protection police officer who shall have all of the powers of an animal control officer conferred by general law and one or more deputy animal protection police officers to assist the animal protection police officer in the performance of his duties. In addition, the animal protection police officer and his deputies shall have all of the powers vested in law-enforcement officers as defined in § 9.1-101, provided that they have met the minimum qualifications and have been certified under §§ 15.2-1705 and 15.2-1706.
- 2. Division of fire protection, in the charge of a fire chief and consisting of such fire fighters firefighters and other personnel as may be appointed.