

ENROLLED
SB1241ER

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 2.2-2452 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Board of Veterans*
 3 *Services; membership and scope of responsibilities.*

4 [S 1241]
 5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. That § 2.2-2452 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 **§ 2.2-2452. Board of Veterans Services; membership; terms; quorum; compensation; staff.**

9 A. The Board of Veterans Services (the Board) is established as a policy board, within the meaning
 10 of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government. The Board shall have a total membership of
 11 ~~22~~ 26 members, including ~~five~~ seven legislative members, ~~14~~ 15 nonlegislative citizen members, and
 12 ~~three~~ four ex officio members. Members shall be appointed as follows: ~~three~~ four members of the House
 13 of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles
 14 of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; ~~two~~ three members of
 15 the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; and ~~14~~ 15 nonlegislative citizen members
 16 to be appointed by the Governor. The Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services, the
 17 Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Veterans Services Foundation, ~~and~~ the Chairman of the Joint
 18 Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations, *and the Chairman of the Virginia War Memorial*
 19 *Foundation*, or their designees, shall serve ex officio with full voting privileges. Nonlegislative citizen
 20 members of the Board shall be citizens of the Commonwealth.

21 In making appointments, the Governor shall endeavor to ensure a balanced geographical
 22 representation on the Board, while at the same time selecting appointees of such qualifications and
 23 experience as will allow them to develop reasonable and effective policy recommendations related to (i)
 24 the services provided to veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and their eligible spouses,
 25 orphans, and dependents by the Department of Veterans Services, *and (ii) the mission of the Virginia*
 26 *War Memorial.*

27 Legislative members and the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services shall serve terms
 28 coincident with their terms of office. Nonlegislative citizen members shall be appointed for a term of
 29 four years. Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be for the unexpired
 30 terms. All members may be reappointed. However, no House member shall serve more than six
 31 consecutive two-year terms, and no Senate member shall serve more than three consecutive four-year
 32 terms. No nonlegislative citizen member shall serve more than two consecutive four-year terms;
 33 however, a nonlegislative citizen member appointed to serve an unexpired term is eligible to serve two
 34 consecutive four-year terms immediately succeeding such unexpired term.

35 The remainder of any term to which a member is appointed to fill a vacancy shall not constitute a
 36 term in determining the member's eligibility for reappointment. Vacancies shall be filled in the same
 37 manner as the original appointments.

38 B. The Board shall select a chairman and vice-chairman from its membership. The Commissioner of
 39 the Department of Veterans Services shall not be eligible to serve as chairman. The Board shall meet at
 40 least three times a year at such times as it deems appropriate or on call of the chairman. A majority of
 41 the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

42 C. The Board shall organize itself in such a way as to allow it to fulfill its powers and duties.

43 D. The Department of Veterans Services shall provide staff to assist the Board in its administrative,
 44 planning, and procedural duties.

45 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2020.**