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SENATE BILL NO. 1725

FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by Senator Reeves

on January 29, 2019)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Stuart)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-345 of the Code of Virginia, relating to stationary blinds in the public waters.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 29.1-345 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 29.1-345. Stationary blinds in the public waters for nonriparian owners.

Unless a license has been obtained pursuant to § 29.1-344, and a stake or a blind has been erected and marked within the time stated as specified in § 29.1-344, in any year; the owners of riparian rights, or their lessees or permittees shall forfeit the privilege of licensing blinds on their shores and also lose priority for licensing stationary blinds in the public waters adjoining such shores. Any locations remaining in the public waters shall belong to whoever first obtains a license and erects a stake or a blind. The blind shall not be located in a marked navigation channel on the site selected. *Except in the waters of the City of Virginia Beach and the Counties of Fairfax, Prince William, and Stafford, the blind or stake shall not be located less than 150 yards from a riparian owner's shoreline on private property at the mean low water mark, unless the riparian owner (i) gives written permission to locate the blind or stake closer to shore or (ii) declines to file a complaint with the Department regarding the location of the blind.* In addition, the blind ~~must~~ shall be at least 500 yards from any other stationary blind, and the license for that season ~~must~~ shall be properly affixed to the structure. When licensing a stationary blind, the location of each blind licensed shall be provided as latitude and longitude coordinates.