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HOUSE BILL NO. 1667

Offered January 17, 2020

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 28.2-102 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Marine Resources Commission; members.*

Patron—Bloxom

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 28.2-102 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 28.2-102. Commission membership; chairman; qualifications; terms; meetings.**

A. The Commission shall consist of a chairman and eight additional members who, to the extent possible, shall be representative of all areas of interest in Virginia's marine resources, including commercial, recreational and environmental interests. At least one member *Two members* shall, at the time of his appointment, have earned his livelihood for at least five years by working on Virginia waters and shall be licensed and registered as a commercial fisherman *fishermen* as defined in § 28.2-241, *two members shall be marine construction contractors, two members shall be participants in the aquaculture industry, and one member two members* shall be a representative of the sport fishing industry or a recreational fisherman *fishermen* who is *are* not employed by the commercial fishing industry. The members, including the chairman, shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at his pleasure.

B. The chairman and two members of the Commission shall hold office for terms coincident with the term of the Governor making the appointments, or until their successors have been appointed and qualified. The terms of the remaining six members shall ~~expire July 1, 1997, and these same six members shall be reappointed effective July 1, 1997, as successors. Their terms shall be as follows: two members shall be appointed for two-year terms, two members shall be appointed for three-year terms, and two members shall be appointed for four-year terms or until their successors are appointed and qualified. Thereafter, all be staggered.~~ All appointments shall be for terms of four years or until their successors are appointed and qualified. No person, except the chairman, shall serve more than two consecutive four-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term.

C. The chairman shall be an experienced administrator with knowledge of seafood and marine affairs. He shall serve as Commissioner of Marine Resources.

D. Five members shall constitute a quorum of the Commission.

E. The Commission shall meet on the call of the chairman or three members at such times as he or they may deem necessary, and at such places as he or they may designate.

INTRODUCED

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