

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21103106D

HOUSE BILL NO. 2302

Offered January 18, 2021

A *BILL to require that farmers market food and beverage sales be considered essential during a declared state of emergency.*

Patrons—Wyatt, Byron, Cole, M.L., Fowler, McGuire, Ransone, Walker, Ware, Webert and Wiley;
Senators: Petersen and Ruff

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That if the Governor, during a disaster for which a state of emergency has been declared, orders the closure of all public access to certain businesses but considers grocery stores and other retailers that sell food and beverage products to be essential and therefore allows such stores to remain open during normal business hours, any Commonwealth-based seller of food or beverage products in a farmers market, and, to the extent it includes such seller, the farmers market in which it is located, shall be considered to be essential to the same extent as such grocery stores and other retailers that sell food and beverage products. Nothing in this act shall be construed to require that a seller in a farmers market of any product other than food or beverage products be considered essential.*

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HB2302