

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2023 SESSION

## CHAPTER 237

*An Act to amend and reenact §§ 27-6.01, 27-8, and 27-10 of the Code of Virginia, relating to fire protection; definition of fire company.*

[H 1765]

Approved March 22, 2023

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

**1. That §§ 27-6.01, 27-8, and 27-10 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 27-6.01. Definitions.**

For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Fire company" means a volunteer firefighting *or firefighter support* organization organized pursuant to § 27-8 in any county, city, or town of the Commonwealth for the purpose of ~~fighting~~ *extinguishing* fires. *Firefighter support group members shall not be included in the provisions of Title 9.1, Title 27, or Title 65.2 unless otherwise designated for inclusion by ordinance or resolution of the governing body of the applicable county, city, or town of the Commonwealth.*

"Fire department" means a firefighting organization established as a department of government of any county, city, or town pursuant to § 27-6.1.

**§ 27-8. Who may form a fire company; limit on number of persons in combined companies.**

Any number of persons, not less than 20, may form themselves into a *fire* company for extinguishing fires. In any county in which two or more *fire* companies for extinguishing fires join together and singly use one fire station, the number of persons in the combined companies shall be not less than 20.

**§ 27-10. Dissolution of fire company.**

Whenever the fire department of the county, city, or town to which any fire company belongs ascertains that such company has failed, for three months successively, to consist of 20 effective members, or ascertains that ~~it~~ *such fire company* has failed for the like period to have or keep in good and serviceable condition an engine, ~~hose,~~ *or other support apparatus* and equipment and other proper implements, or the governing body of the county, city, or town for any reason deems it advisable, such governing body may dissolve the fire company.