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HOUSE BILL NO. 1247

House Amendments in [] — February 8, 1994

A BILL to amend and reenact § 3.1-796.113 of the Code of Virginia, relating to searches for cruelty to animals.

Patrons—Cox; Senator: Russell

Referred to Committee on Agriculture

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 3.1-796.113 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 3.1-796.113. Power of search for violations of statutes against cruelty to animals.

When a sworn complaint is made to any proper authority by any humane investigator appointed pursuant to § 3.1-796.109, law-enforcement official [; or] animal warden [or licensed veterinarian] that the complainant believes and has reasonable cause to believe that the laws in relation to cruelty to animals have been, are being, or are about to be violated in any particular building or place, such authority, if satisfied that there is reasonable cause for such belief, shall issue a warrant authorizing any sheriff, deputy sheriff or police officer, to search the building or place. No search shall be made after sunset unless specially authorized by the authority upon satisfactory cause shown.