

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 7.1-31.1 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by*
3 *adding in Chapter 5 of Title 2.1 a section numbered 2.1-51.6:4, relating to commercial use of the*
4 *seals of the Commonwealth.*

5 [H 1601]

6 Approved

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

8 **1. That § 7.1-31.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia**
9 **is amended by adding in Chapter 5 of Title 2.1 a section numbered 2.1-51.6:4 as follows:**

10 § 2.1-51.6:4. *Commercial use of seals of the Commonwealth.*

11 *A. The Governor may authorize the use of the seals of the Commonwealth for commercial purposes*
12 *upon a finding that such use promotes an appropriate image of the Commonwealth, its heritage and its*
13 *history, and that such use is carried out in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth. In*
14 *considering whether the use of the seals in association with a product promotes an appropriate image of*
15 *the Commonwealth, preference shall be given to products which (i) preserve traditional methods of*
16 *production, including handcrafting techniques, (ii) enhance public appreciation of the Commonwealth's*
17 *aesthetic values, and (iii) incorporate workmanship and materials of the highest quality. A prospective*
18 *licensee shall be deemed qualified to protect and promote the image of the Commonwealth if it holds*
19 *licenses to produce products associated with museums and sites of major historical importance in the*
20 *Commonwealth, including but not limited to homes of Presidents of the United States and restored*
21 *historical areas.*

22 *B. The Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Director of the Division of Purchases and Supply*
23 *shall assist the Governor in determining the appropriateness of (i) any contract entered into for the*
24 *commercial use of the seals of the Commonwealth, (ii) the product intended to be sold, (iii) any*
25 *marketing activities undertaken to promote the sale of the product, and (iv) the pricing structure,*
26 *including royalties to be paid to the Commonwealth for such use and sale. Any such royalties paid to*
27 *the Commonwealth shall be deposited in the general fund.*

28 § 7.1-31.1. *Seals deemed property of Commonwealth; unauthorized use.*

29 *The seals of the Commonwealth shall be deemed the property of the Commonwealth; and no persons*
30 *shall exhibit, display, or in any manner utilize the seals or any facsimile or representation of the seals of*
31 *the Commonwealth for nongovernmental purposes unless such use is specifically authorized by law.*

32 *Except as provided in § 2.1-51.6:4, any person violating the provisions of this section shall be*
33 *punished by a fine of not more than \$100, or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days or both.*

ENROLLED

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