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SENATE BILL NO. 1081

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-686, relating to a special election before abolishing a constitutional office by change in form of county government.

Patrons—Saslaw, Benedetti, Goode, Holland, R.J., Marsh, Maxwell and Walker; Delegate: Reynolds

Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-686 as follows:

§ 24.2-686. Special elections; abolition of constitutional office by change in form of government.

The provisions of § 24.2-685 shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to any county seeking to change its form of government pursuant to Chapter 13 of Title 15.1 (§ 15.1-582 et seq.) if the effect of such change in form would be the abolition of an existing office created pursuant to Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution of Virginia. In such case, and before any referendum is held on a change in form of government, there shall be a referendum to submit to the voters a question in substantially the following form:

"Shall the County of be authorized to seek a change in the form of government which would eliminate the elected office(s) of ?"

Approval of a majority of the qualified voters voting in such referendum shall be a condition precedent to the entry of any order requiring the holding of a referendum pursuant to § 15.1-583.