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HOUSE BILL NO. 232

Offered January 10, 1996

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.1-676 of the Code of Virginia, relating to election and filling of vacancies on county board under county manager plan.

Patrons—Almand, Connally and Darner; Senators: Howell, Ticer and Whipple

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.1-676 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.1-676. Election of members of county board; filling vacancies.

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 15.1-694, in any county operating as of December 1, 1993, under the county manager plan provided for in this chapter, the members of the county board shall be elected and vacancies on the board shall be filled as provided in this section.

B. Two members of the county board shall be elected at the November 1995 election to succeed the members whose terms are expiring, and one member each shall be elected at the 1994, 1996, and 1997 November elections to succeed the members whose terms respectively are expiring. Thereafter at each regular November election there shall be elected one or more members of the county board to succeed the member or members whose terms expire on or before January 1 next succeeding such election. The members so elected shall be elected for terms of four years each, shall take office on January 1 next succeeding their election, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualify.

C. When any vacancy occurs in the membership of the county board, the iudge of the circuit court of the county shall call a special election for the remainder of the unexpired term to be held not less than 45 days and not more than 60 days thereafter; provided that if any vacancy occurs within 180 days before the expiration of a term of office, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by a majority vote of the remaining members of the board within 30 days of the occurrence of the vacancy after holding a public hearing with respect to the appointment. The appointment shall be for the duration of the unexpired term at a special election held at the next November general election date as provided in § 24.2-226. The remaining members of the county board shall make an interim appointment to fill the vacancy, as provided in § 24.2-228, until the qualified voters fill the vacancy by election and the person so elected has qualified.