

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1997 SESSION

## CHAPTER 312

*An Act to amend Chapter 717 of the Acts of Assembly of 1980, which provided a charter for the City of Chesapeake, by adding a section numbered 3.10, relating to advisory referenda.*

[S 768]

Approved March 13, 1997

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

**1. That Chapter 717 of the Acts of Assembly of 1980 is amended by adding a section numbered 3.10 as follows:**

*§ 3.10. Advisory referenda.*

*Upon the filing with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Chesapeake of a petition signed by a number of qualified voters in Chesapeake equaling twenty-five percent of the number of voters voting in Chesapeake at the last presidential election, as certified by the city registrar, then the circuit court of the city, by order of record, shall call for an advisory referendum taking the sense of the voters on the question proposed in the petition at the next succeeding general election. The proposed question shall pertain to the affairs of city government. The question shall not pertain to taxation or the incurrence of debt. The referendum shall be initiated and conducted in accordance with the provisions of §§ 24.2-684 and 24.2-684.1 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, except that the petition shall be circulated, completed and filed within four months of the date the clerk of the circuit court certifies receipt and acceptance of the unsigned petition copy.*

*Following certification of the election results by the electoral board to the chief judge, the court shall enter an order proclaiming the results of such election and a duly certified copy of such order shall be transmitted to the governing body.*