

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1997 SESSION

## CHAPTER 352

*An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 36-105.2, relating to expedited building plan review program in any county having the urban county executive form of government.*

[S 745]

Approved March 15, 1997

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 36-105.2 as follows:**

*§ 36-105.2. Expedited building plan review program.*

*A. Any county having the urban county executive form of government may establish, by ordinance, an optional program for the expedited review of certain qualified building plans, provided the requirements of the Uniform Statewide Building Code are met. The program shall include the designation by the local building official of licensed architects or licensed professional engineers from the private sector as peer reviewers. Plans reviewed and recommended for submission by county-designated peer reviewers shall qualify for the separate, expedited processing procedure established by ordinance. A person who has prepared design plans shall not serve as a peer reviewer for designs prepared by him. A person who has been designated as a peer reviewer shall only review those components of a building plan which the peer reviewer would be authorized to design under Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1.*

*B. Such ordinance shall establish the qualifications for designation as a peer reviewer, which shall include, but not be limited to, licensure as an architect or a professional engineer, and successful completion of an initial and annual education and proficiency program as specified by the local building official.*

*In order to maintain the designation of peer reviewer, a person shall (i) continue to meet the qualifications set forth in this subsection and (ii) consistently recommend for submission building plans which meet the requirements of the Uniform Statewide Building Code.*

*C. In no event shall this section relieve persons who prepare and submit plans of the responsibilities and obligations which they would otherwise have with regard to the preparation of plans, nor shall it relieve the county of its obligation to review all plans in the manner prescribed by law.*

**2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2002.**