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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1990**

Offered January 10, 1997

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.1-561 of the Code of Virginia, relating to removal of courthouse.*

Patrons—Way and Van Yahres; Senator: Couric

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 15.1-561 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 15.1-561. Certification of result to supervisor; procuring land and buildings; relocation to contiguous land.

If it shall appear from the abstracts and returns that a majority of the votes cast at such election are for the removal of the courthouse to one of the places specified in the petition or resolution, the results shall be certified to the board of supervisors of the county, with the amount authorized to be expended for land, if not donated, and for necessary buildings and improvements. If the vote shall be for removal the board of supervisors shall at once proceed to acquire the necessary land at the new location, if the same has not been donated, and to erect the necessary buildings and improvements.

The relocation of a courthouse to land contiguous with its present location is not such a removal as to require authorization by the electorate.

The provisions of this article requiring authorization by the electorate shall not apply, in the case of a joint court system, *between a county with a population between 65,000 and 70,000 and a city with a population between 40,000 and 50,000 or between a county with a population between 34,500 and 39,500 and a city; with a population between 11,100 and 11,900 or between a county with a population between 39,600 and 45,600 and a city with a population between 10,000 and 11,500 or between a county with a population between 8,800 and 9,100 and a city with a population between 5,000 and 6,000 to the relocation of the courthouse to other land within the localities which it serves, from its present location, if the governing bodies shall find by concurrent resolutions that the existing courthouse is inadequate and that renovation or expansion of the existing courthouse is not feasible.*

INTRODUCED

HB1990