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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2448**

Offered January 20, 1997

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.1-1.6 and 9-6.25:3 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 3.1 a Chapter numbered 44, consisting of sections 3.1-1081 through 3.1-2005, relating to the Virginia Cotton Board; penalties.*

Patrons—Councill, Barlow, Bloxom, Cooper, Ingram, McEachin, Nelms and Ruff; Senator: Holland

Referred to Committee on Agriculture

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

**1. That §§ 2.1-1.6 and 9-6.25:3 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 3.1 a Chapter numbered 44, consisting of sections 3.1-1081 through 3.1-2005, as follows:**

§ 2.1-1.6. State boards.

A. There shall be, in addition to such others as may be established by law, the following permanent collegial bodies affiliated with a state agency within the executive branch:

Accountancy, Board for

Aging, Advisory Board on the

Agriculture and Consumer Services, Board of

Air Pollution, State Advisory Board on

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Virginia

Apple Board, Virginia State

Appomattox State Scenic River Advisory Board

Aquaculture Advisory Board

Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects, State Board for

Art and Architectural Review Board

Athletic Board, Virginia

Auctioneers Board

Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, Board of

Aviation Board, Virginia

Barbers, Board for

Branch Pilots, Board for

Bright Flue-Cured Tobacco Board, Virginia

Building Code Technical Review Board, State

Catoctin Creek State Scenic River Advisory Board

Cattle Industry Board, Virginia

Cave Board

Certified Seed Board, State

Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board

Chickahominy State Scenic River Advisory Board

Child Abuse and Neglect, Advisory Board on

Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation, Board of Trustees

Clinch Scenic River Advisory Board

Coal Mining Examiners, Board of

Coal Research and Development Advisory Board, Virginia

Coal Surface Mining Reclamation Fund Advisory Board

Coastal Land Management Advisory Council, Virginia

Conservation and Development of Public Beaches, Board on

Conservation and Recreation, Board of

Contractors, Board for

Corn Board, Virginia

Correctional Education, Board of

Corrections, State Board of

Cosmetology, Board for

Criminal Justice Services Board

Dark-Fired Tobacco Board, Virginia

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, Advisory Board for the Department for the

Dentistry, Board of

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HB2448

60	Design-Build/Construction Management Review Board
61	Education, State Board of
62	Egg Board, Virginia
63	Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board
64	Farmers Market Board, Virginia
65	Film Office Advisory Board
66	Fire Services Board, Virginia
67	Forensic Science Advisory Board
68	Forestry, Board of
69	Funeral Directors and Embalmers, Board of
70	Game and Inland Fisheries, Board of
71	Geology, Board for
72	Goose Creek Scenic River Advisory Board
73	Health Planning Board, Virginia
74	Health Professions, Board of
75	Health, State Board of
76	Hearing Aid Specialists, Board for
77	Hemophilia Advisory Board
78	Historic Resources, Board of
79	Housing and Community Development, Board of
80	Industrial Development Services Advisory Board
81	Irish Potato Board, Virginia
82	Juvenile Justice, State Board of
83	Litter Control and Recycling Fund Advisory Board
84	Marine Products Board, Virginia
85	Medical Advisory Board, Department of Motor Vehicles
86	Medical Board of the Virginia Retirement System
87	Medicare and Medicaid, Advisory Board on
88	Medicine, Board of
89	Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services Board, State
90	Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Board
91	Military Affairs, Board of
92	Mineral Mining Examiners, Board of
93	Minority Business Enterprise, Interdepartmental Board of the Department of
94	Networking Users Advisory Board, State
95	Nottoway State Scenic River Advisory Board
96	Nursing, Board of
97	Nursing Home Administrators, Board of
98	Occupational Therapy, Advisory Board on
99	Oil and Gas Conservation Board, Virginia
100	Opticians, Board for
101	Optometry, Board of
102	Peanut Board, Virginia
103	Personnel Advisory Board
104	Pesticide Control Board
105	Pharmacy, Board of
106	Physical Therapy to the Board of Medicine, Advisory Board on
107	Plant Pollination Advisory Board
108	Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board
109	Pork Industry Board, Virginia
110	Poultry Products Board, Virginia
111	Private College Advisory Board
112	Private Security Services Advisory Board
113	Professional and Occupational Regulation, Board for
114	Professional Counselors, Board of
115	Professional Soil Scientists, Board for
116	Psychiatric Advisory Board
117	Psychology, Board of
118	Public Buildings Board, Virginia
119	Public Telecommunications Board, Virginia
120	Radiation Advisory Board
121	Real Estate Appraiser Board

- 122 Real Estate Board
- 123 Reciprocity Board, Department of Motor Vehicles
- 124 Recreational Fishing Advisory Board, Virginia
- 125 Recreation Specialists, Board of
- 126 Reforestation Board
- 127 Rehabilitation Providers, Advisory Board on
- 128 Rehabilitative Services, Board of
- 129 Respiratory Therapy, Advisory Board on
- 130 Retirement System Review Board
- 131 Rockfish State Scenic River Advisory Board
- 132 Safety and Health Codes Board
- 133 Seed Potato Board
- 134 Sewage Handling and Disposal Appeal Review Board, State Health Department
- 135 Shenandoah State Scenic River Advisory Board
- 136 Small Business Advisory Board
- 137 Small Business Environmental Compliance Advisory Board
- 138 Small Grains Board, Virginia
- 139 Social Services, Board of
- 140 Social Work, Board of
- 141 Soil and Water Conservation Board, Virginia
- 142 Soybean Board, Virginia
- 143 State Air Pollution Control Board
- 144 Substance Abuse Certification Board
- 145 Surface Mining Review, Board of
- 146 Sweet Potato Board, Virginia
- 147 T & M Vehicle Dealers' Advisory Board
- 148 Teacher Education and Licensure, Advisory Board on
- 149 Tourism and Travel Services Advisory Board
- 150 Transportation Board, Commonwealth
- 151 Transportation Safety, Board of
- 152 Treasury Board, The, Department of the Treasury
- 153 Veterans' Affairs, Board on
- 154 Veterinary Medicine, Board of
- 155 Virginia Board for Asbestos Licensing
- 156 Virginia Coal Mine Safety Board
- 157 Virginia Correctional Enterprises Advisory Board
- 158 *Virginia Cotton Board*
- 159 Virginia Employment Commission, State Advisory Board for the
- 160 Virginia Higher Education Tuition Trust Fund, Board of the
- 161 Virginia Horse Industry Board
- 162 Virginia Manufactured Housing Board
- 163 Virginia Retirement System, Board of Trustees
- 164 Virginia Sheep Industry Board
- 165 Virginia Veterans Cemetery Board
- 166 Virginia Waste Management Board
- 167 Visually Handicapped, Virginia Board for the
- 168 Voluntary Formulary Board, Virginia
- 169 War Memorial Foundation, Virginia, Board of Trustees
- 170 Waste Management Facility Operators, Board for
- 171 Water Resources Research Center Statewide Advisory Board, Virginia
- 172 Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators, Board for
- 173 Well Review Board, Virginia.
- 174 B. Notwithstanding the definition for "board" as provided in § 2.1-1.2, the following entities shall be
- 175 referred to as boards:
- 176 Compensation Board
- 177 State Board of Elections
- 178 State Water Control Board
- 179 Virginia Parole Board
- 180 Virginia Veterans Care Center Board of Trustees.

*CHAPTER 44.*

*VIRGINIA COTTON BOARD.*

§ 3.1- 1081. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Agriculture board" means the Virginia Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Bale" means a 480 pound, more or less, net-weight, module of cotton.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"Cotton" means the field crop of the genus *Gossypium* grown to be further processed into consumable goods.

"Cotton board" means the Virginia Cotton Board.

"Farming unit" means any sole proprietorship, corporation, or partnership and includes land owned and leased by any such business entity.

"Fiscal year" means July 1 through the following June 30.

"Handler" means the first purchaser of cotton from a producer.

"Locality" means county, city, or town.

"Producer" means any farmer who grows, harvests, and sells cotton in Virginia.

§ 3.1-1082. Declaration of public interest.

Subject to the provisions of § 3.1-1090, the General Assembly hereby declares it to be in the public interest that producers be permitted to express in a referendum whether an assessment should be levied upon cotton, with revenues therefrom to be used in encouraging an expanded program of research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton.

§ 3.1-1083. Petition for referendum on question of levying an assessment; action of Agriculture Board thereon.

The Agriculture Board, upon a petition being filed with it by the Virginia Cotton Growers Association, Inc., or the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, requesting a referendum and, upon finding that sufficient interest exists among producers in this Commonwealth to justify a referendum, shall authorize a referendum as set forth in this chapter. The Commissioner, or his designated agents, shall thereupon be fully empowered and directed to conduct a referendum on the question of whether or not the producers in this Commonwealth are of the opinion that such additional research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton is required.

§ 3.1-1084. Rules governing ballots, conduct of referendum, canvassing, etc.

The Agriculture Board shall adopt rules governing the ballots to be used, the conduct of the referendum, canvassing the results thereof, and declaring the results of any referendum provided for in this chapter. The Agriculture Board shall fix the date, hours, and voting places with respect to the holding of the referendum and may provide for voting by mail. No requirement of this section shall be governed by Article 2 (§ 9-6.14:7.1 et seq.) of the Administrative Process Act.

§ 3.1-1085. Management of referendum; notice.

The Commissioner shall, under the rules adopted by the Agriculture Board pursuant to § 3.1-1084, arrange for the use of any polling places, if necessary. The Commissioner shall, at least sixty days before the date on which a referendum is to be held, to mail notice to the clerk of the circuit court in each locality where cotton is produced. The clerk of the court shall post the notice to the front door or public bulletin board of the courthouse and certify the posting to the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall, at least sixty days prior to the holding of any referendum under this chapter, publish notice of the referendum in a newspaper of daily general circulation in Richmond, Virginia, and send a notice of the referendum to a newspaper of general circulation in each locality in which cotton is produced.

Such notice shall contain the date, hours, voting places, and method of voting in the referendum; the amount of assessment to be collected, the means by which assessment will be collected, and the general purposes for which the assessment will be used; and the rules adopted by the Agriculture Board pursuant to § 3.1-1086.

§ 3.1-1086. Persons eligible to vote.

Any person in the Commonwealth who produced at least one bale of cotton in the Commonwealth in the fiscal year preceding any referendum held pursuant to this chapter shall be eligible to vote in such referendum, provided that he so certifies on forms prepared by the Commissioner. Completed certification forms shall include the following information: (i) the full name, address, and, if applicable, title of producer if a partner or corporate officer; (ii) the name and locality of each handler of that producer's cotton in the fiscal year preceding the referendum; and (iii) any other information deemed necessary by the Commissioner to carry out the Commissioner's duties under this section. Any person who meets the requirements of this section shall be eligible to vote in the referendum, but no person shall be required to be a qualified voter in other respects. Natural persons, partnerships, or corporations may vote provided that such person is a resident of the Commonwealth or qualified to do business in the Commonwealth. The vote of a partnership shall be cast by one of the general partners. A corporation shall vote by its president, general manager, or such other person as may be authorized by the corporation to vote. Only one person per farming unit shall be eligible to vote in any

referendum.

§ 3.1-1087. Distribution of ballots, etc.; canvass and declaration of results.

The Commissioner shall prepare and distribute in advance of the referendum all necessary ballots, certificates, and supplies required for the referendum. The Commissioner shall, within ten days after the referendum, canvass and publicly declare the results thereof and certify the same to the Governor and shall notify, by mail, each member of the Agriculture Board of the results.

§ 3.1-1088. Referendum results; action of Governor.

If the Governor finds the referendum in order, that at least fifty percent of those who have met the requirements of § 3.1-1086 have voted and that a majority of those voting are in favor of the assessment for the purpose of conducting programs in research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton, the Governor shall so proclaim. Upon such proclamation by the Governor, the Virginia Cotton Board, within the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall be established. The Governor shall appoint members to the Cotton Board in accordance with § 3.1-1093 within 180 days after the proclamation. If the Governor finds that one-half or more of those voting are in opposition to the assessment for the purpose of conducting programs in research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton, then the Governor shall not so proclaim and the Cotton Board shall not be established.

§ 3.1-1089. Subsequent referenda.

If the Governor issues a proclamation pursuant to § 3.1-1088 and the Cotton Board is established, then no other referendum shall be held except that the Agriculture Board, upon petition by at least ten percent of the producers in the Commonwealth, shall provide for a referendum on the continuation of the Cotton Board and the assessment. The Agriculture Board shall not act on any such petition until at least five years have passed since the establishment of the Cotton Board, unless the number of petitioners exceeds fifty-five percent of the producers in the Commonwealth. Any referendum held under this section shall be conducted in accordance with §§ 3.1-1084 through 3.1-1087.

§ 3.1-1090. Subsequent referendum results; action of Governor.

If the Governor finds any referendum held pursuant to § 3.1-1089 in order, that at least fifty percent of those have met the requirements of § 3.1-1086 have voted and that a majority of those voting are in opposition to the continuation of the Cotton Board and the assessment on cotton, the Governor shall so proclaim and upon such proclamation the Cotton Board will be discontinued. If the Governor finds that one-half or more of those voting are in favor of the continuation of the Cotton Board and the assessment on cotton, the Governor shall not so proclaim. The cost of conducting a referendum under this section shall be from funds paid into the Virginia Cotton Fund as established in § 3.1-2001.

§ 3.1-1091. Question to be printed on ballots.

A. The question to be printed on the ballots used in the referendum held under this chapter, except the referendum authorized in § 3.1-1089, shall be:

Do you favor additional research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton; the creation of a Virginia Cotton Board; and the levy of an assessment of eighty-five cents per bale of cotton sold in the Commonwealth to support additional research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton?

B. The question to be printed on the ballots used in any referendum authorized in § 3.1-1089 on the continuation of the Cotton Board shall be:

Do you favor the continuation of the Virginia Cotton Board and the continuation of the levy of an assessment of eighty-five cents per bale of cotton produced in the Commonwealth for the purpose of research concerning, education on, and promotion of cotton?

§ 3.1-1092. Production areas designated; addition of localities.

The following production areas are hereby designated for the purposes of this chapter:

Area I: Accomack and Northampton Counties and the Cities of Chesapeake, Virginia Beach and Suffolk;

Area II: Isle of Wight County;

Area III: Charles City, Henrico, New Kent, Essex, King and Queen, King William, Lancaster and Northumberland Counties;

Area IV: Surry and Prince George Counties;

Area V: Southampton County;

Area VI: Dinwiddie, Sussex and Amelia Counties; and

Area VII: Brunswick, Greensville and Campbell Counties.

In any case in which the production of cotton occurs in any locality that is not part of a production area as designated in this section, such locality shall be part of the nearest adjacent production area. If there are two or more nearest adjacent production areas, such locality shall be part of that production area which had the lowest cotton production in the most recent calendar year according to the records of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

306 § 3.1-1093. *Composition and appointment; quorum.*

307 If the governor issues a proclamation under § 3.1-1088 and the Cotton Board is established, the  
308 Cotton Board shall be composed of seven members appointed by the governor, each of whom shall be a  
309 resident of Virginia and a producer in Virginia. The governor shall be guided in his appointments from  
310 nominations made by the following agricultural organizations: (i) the Virginia Cotton Growers  
311 Association, Inc., (ii) the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, and (iii) any other organization within the  
312 Commonwealth that is recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture as a certified cotton  
313 grower organization representing Virginia producers pursuant to guidelines authorized by the Cotton  
314 Research and Promotion Act (7 USC §§ 2101-2118,). Each such agricultural organization may nominate  
315 producers from each production area. The Governor shall appoint a producer residing in each such  
316 production area. If no producer resides in a particular production area, the Governor shall appoint a  
317 qualified producer from any other production area. Four members of the Cotton Board shall constitute  
318 a quorum.

319 § 3.1-1094. *Terms.*

320 The Governor shall make the following initial appointments to the Cotton Board: three producers for  
321 three-year terms; two producers for two-year terms; and two producers for one-year terms. Thereafter  
322 appointments shall be for three-year terms. The Governor shall fill any vacancy occurring before the  
323 expiration of any term through appointment of a qualified producer for the unexpired term. If possible,  
324 such vacancies shall be filled from the production area from which the vacancy occurred. No person  
325 may serve more than two consecutive three-year terms.

326 § 3.1-1095. *Officers; compensation; powers and duties.*

327 The Cotton Board shall elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and such other officers as the Cotton  
328 Board deems necessary. The Cotton Board shall have charge of the Virginia Cotton Fund established in  
329 the Virginia state treasury. Members of the Cotton Board shall be reimbursed for all actual expenses  
330 incurred in the attendance of meetings of the Cotton Board and any other Cotton Board-related  
331 activities as authorized by the Cotton Board.

332 § 3.1-1096 *Expenditures and contracts.*

333 The Cotton Board may expend funds and enter into contracts in order to effectuate the purposes of  
334 this chapter.

335 § 3.1-1097. *Cooperation with other organizations.*

336 The Cotton Board may cooperate with other state, regional, national, and international organizations  
337 in research concerning, education on, and promotion of cotton and may expend moneys from the  
338 Virginia Cotton Fund for such purpose.

339 § 3.1-1098. *Handler to deduct assessment from payment to producer; collection and disposition of*  
340 *assessment; reports.*

341 A. Every handler shall deduct from payments for cotton that he makes to any producer an  
342 assessment of eighty-five cents per bale and shall remit such assessment to the Tax Commissioner on or  
343 before the last day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter. Such assessment shall be in  
344 addition to any moneys collected by the handler as authorized by the Cotton Research and Promotion  
345 Act (7 U.S.C §§ 2101-2118). The Tax Commissioner shall promptly pay the assessments into the  
346 Virginia state treasury to the credit of the Virginia Cotton Fund.

347 B. Every handler shall complete reports on forms furnished by the Tax Commissioner, submit such  
348 reports to the Tax Commissioner along with the assessments submitted pursuant to subsection A, and  
349 keep copies of the reports for a period of not less than two years from the time the report was  
350 produced. Each report shall consist of information for the calendar quarter preceding the month such  
351 report is due and shall include the following: (i) the number of bales that the handler has purchased;  
352 (ii) the dollar amount of assessments collected by the handler; (iii) a list of producers who have paid an  
353 assessment for cotton sold to the handler; (iv) the dollar amounts of all assessments paid by each  
354 producer; and (v) any other information deemed necessary by the Tax Commissioner to carry out his  
355 duties under this chapter. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 58.1-3, upon request, the Tax  
356 Commissioner shall provide to the Cotton Board or the Commissioner copies of reports submitted  
357 pursuant to this section.

358 § 3.1-1999. *Records to be kept by handler.*

359 Every handler shall maintain the following records for each purchase of cotton by the handler from  
360 a producer:

- 361 1. Full name and address of the producer;
- 362 2. Date of the purchase of cotton by the handler from such producer;
- 363 3. Number of bales purchased;
- 364 4. Amount paid, per pound and in total, for cotton purchase; and
- 365 5. Dollar amount of assessment collected by the handler from the producer.

366 The handler shall maintain such records for a period of not less than two years from the time the of  
367 purchase. Such records shall be open to the inspection of the Tax Commissioner and his duly authorized

agents, and shall be established and maintained as required by the Tax Commissioner.

§ 3.1-2000. Assessment for initial referendum; expiration.

A. Beginning July 1, 1997, until sufficient moneys are collected to pay the cost of conducting the initial referendum, a fee of eighty-five cents per bale is hereby assessed on any cotton sold within the Commonwealth. The Tax Commissioner shall collect the assessment and shall pay any proceeds to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the purpose of conducting an initial referendum on the question of establishing a Cotton Board. No initial referendum may be held until sufficient funds to pay the cost of such referendum are collected.

B. If the initial referendum fails, any assessments collected in excess of the amount necessary to conduct such referendum shall be paid to the Tidewater Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Suffolk, Virginia, for use in cotton research or cotton-related educational activities. If the referendum is approved, such assessments shall be collected and administered with this chapter.

C. The provisions of this section shall expire on the date the Governor proclaims that the referendum has been approved.

§ 3.1-2001. Virginia Cotton Fund created; purpose; revenue-producing activities of Cotton Board.

A. The Cotton Board shall establish, administer, manage and make expenditures from a special, nonreverting fund in the state treasury to be known as the Virginia Sheep Industry Promotion and Development Fund. The Board shall establish and administer the Fund solely for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter. No provision of this chapter shall be construed to give the Board the authority to expend funds for legislative or political activity. The Fund shall consist of assessments paid pursuant to § 3.1-1098. The unexpended balance of the Fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the general fund of the state treasury, but shall remain in the Fund.

B. The Auditor for Public Accounts shall audit all the accounts of the Board as provided in § 2.1-155.

C. All money collected under this chapter shall be expended by the Board by warrants of the State Comptroller on vouchers signed by a duly authorized officer of the Board.

D. The Cotton Board, to help defray the costs of Cotton Board programs, may sell printed materials, rent exhibit space at meetings, and engage in any revenue-producing activity related to research concerning, education on, and promotion of the growth and use of cotton. The Cotton Board shall promptly pay the proceeds of any such revenue-producing activities into the Virginia Cotton Fund.

§ 3.1-2002. Collection of delinquent assessments; prosecutions.

If any handler fails to pay assessment money pursuant to §3.1-1098 when due, the Tax Commissioner shall immediately notify the handler of such deficiency and shall add thereto a penalty of five percent of the amount due. If such deficiency is not paid within thirty days after the date of such notice, the amount of the deficiency shall bear interest, in accordance with § 58.1-15, from the date the amount was due, and the tax commissioner shall collect any interest as part of the delinquent amount. If any handler is delinquent in any payment of the money due or interest thereon, the amount shall be collected by civil action in the name of the Commonwealth at the direction of the Tax Commissioner, and any handler adjudged to be in default shall pay the cost of such action. The Attorney General, at the request of the tax commissioner, shall without delay, institute action in a court of competent jurisdiction for the collection of any money due under this chapter, including interest thereon.

§ 3.1-2003. Misdemeanors; prosecution.

It shall be a Class 1 misdemeanor:

1. For any handler to fail to submit to the Tax Commissioner any report required pursuant to § 3.1-1098 within sixty days after the time such report is required to be submitted.

2. For any handler knowingly to report falsely to the Tax Commissioner any information required pursuant to § 3.1-1098.

3. For any producer knowingly to report falsely to the Commissioner any information required pursuant to § 3.1-1086.

Prosecution shall be initiated by the attorney for the Commonwealth in any city or county within the Commonwealth.

§ 9-6.25:3. Supervisory boards.

There shall be, in addition to such others as may be designated in accordance with § 9-6.25, the following supervisory boards:

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Board for Branch Pilots

Board of Commissioners, Virginia Port Authority

Board of Game and Inland Fisheries

Board of Regents, Gunston Hall Plantation

Board of Regents, James Monroe Memorial Law Office and Library

Board of Trustees, Chippokes Plantation Farm Foundation

429 Board of Trustees, Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia  
430 Board of Trustees, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation  
431 Board of Trustees, the Science Museum of Virginia  
432 Board of Trustees, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
433 Board of Trustees, Virginia Retirement System  
434 Board of Trustees, Virginia Veterans Care Center  
435 Board of Trustees, Virginia War Memorial Foundation  
436 Board of the Virginia Higher Education Tuition Trust Fund  
437 Board of Visitors, Christopher Newport University  
438 Board of Visitors, George Mason University  
439 Board of Visitors, James Madison University  
440 Board of Visitors, Longwood College  
441 Board of Visitors, Mary Washington College  
442 Board of Visitors, Norfolk State University  
443 Board of Visitors, Old Dominion University  
444 Board of Visitors, Radford University  
445 Board of Visitors, The College of William and Mary in Virginia  
446 Board of Visitors, University of Virginia  
447 Board of Visitors, Virginia Commonwealth University  
448 Board of Visitors, Virginia Military Institute  
449 Board of Visitors, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
450 Board of Visitors, Virginia State University  
451 Charitable Gaming Commission  
452 Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council  
453 Compensation Board  
454 Governing Board, Virginia College Building Authority  
455 Governing Board, Virginia Public School Authority  
456 Motor Vehicle Dealer Board  
457 State Board for Community Colleges, Virginia Community College System  
458 State Board of Education  
459 State Certified Seed Board  
460 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia  
461 Virginia Agricultural Council  
462 Virginia Bright Flue-Cured Tobacco Board  
463 Virginia Board for People with Disabilities  
464 Virginia Cattle Industry Board  
465 Virginia Corn Board  
466 *Virginia Cotton Board*  
467 Virginia Dark-Fired Tobacco Board  
468 Virginia Egg Board  
469 Virginia Horse Industry Board  
470 Virginia Marine Products Board  
471 Virginia Peanut Board  
472 Virginia Pork Industry Board  
473 Virginia Soybean Board  
474 Virginia State Apple Board  
475 Virginia Sweet Potato Board.  
476 **2. That the provisions of this act which assess eighty-five cents per bale of cotton sold within the**  
477 **Commonwealth shall become effective only after a referendum as provided for in Chapter 44**  
478 **(§3.1-1081 et seq.) of Title 3.1 has passed, except that the provisions of 3.1-2000 shall become**  
479 **effective on July 1, 1997.**