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SENATE BILL NO. 745**FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by Senator Woods
on January 30, 1997)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Woods)

A BILL 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.

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. The program shall include the designation by the local building official of architects or 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. A person who has prepared design plans shall not serve as a peer reviewer for such designs. A person who has been designated as a peer reviewer may only review those components of building plans which the peer reviewer would be authorized to design under Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.).

B. The qualifications of persons who may be designated as peer reviewers shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Licensure as an architect or a professional engineer.

2. Appropriate plan review certification from a model code organization as specified by the local building official.

3. Successful completion of an initial and annual education program as specified by the local building official.

4. Consistent review and submission of building plans which meet all applicable Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code and county code requirements.

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 other plans in the manner prescribed by law.

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