1   **VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER**

2   *An Act to standardize public participation guidelines for executive branch agencies.*

3   [H 1167]
4   Approved
5
6   **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**
7   **1.** *§ 1. That on or before July 1, 2008, the Department of Planning and Budget, in consultation with the*
8   *Office of the Attorney General, shall (i) develop model public participation guidelines meeting the*
9   *requirements of § 2.2-4007.02 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) provide these model public participation*
10   *guidelines to each agency that has the authority to promulgate regulations. By December 1, 2008, each*
11   *agency shall either (a) adopt the model public participation guidelines or (b) if significant additions or*
12   *changes are proposed, promulgate the model public participation guidelines with the proposed changes*
13   *as fast-track regulations pursuant to § 2.2-4012.1 of the Code of Virginia. Agency action in adopting the*
14   *model public participation guidelines in accordance with clause (a) shall be exempt from the operation*
15   *of Article 2 (§ 2.2-4006 et seq.) of Chapter 40 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia. The repeal of any*
16   *existing public participation guidelines shall occur in the same regulatory action as the promulgation of*
17   *the model public participation guidelines required by this section.*
18   *§ 2. The model public participation guidelines adopted pursuant to this act shall apply to the*
19   *promulgation and adoption of regulations for which a notice of intended regulatory action is filed in*
20   *accordance with § 2.2-4007.01 of the Code of Virginia on or after January 1, 2009.*
21   *§ 3. However, any amendments made after January 1, 2009, to an agency's public participation*
22   *guidelines adopted as required by this act shall be subject to the requirements of the Administrative*
23   *Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia).*
24   *§ 4. For the purposes of this act, the terms "agency" and "regulations" mean the same as those*
25   *terms are defined in § 2.2-4001 of the Code of Virginia.*