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Referred to Committee on General Laws

Patron—Hogan

**HOUSE BILL NO. 644** 

Offered January 9, 2008 Prefiled January 8, 2008 A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 3.1-336.8:1, relating to the Master Settlement Agreement; enforcement requirements for tobacco product manufacturers; national sales

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 3.1-336.8:1 as follows:

§ 3.1-336.8:1. Additional information regarding national sales required.

A. Every tobacco product manufacturer whose cigarettes are to be sold in the Commonwealth whether directly or through a distributor, retailer, or similar intermediary or intermediaries shall submit, as a condition of selling cigarettes in the Commonwealth, to the Attorney General a true and correct copy of each annual return or report filed with the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau for federal excise tax purposes.

B. The Attorney General's Office shall compile sales data and share such data with other states that are signatories to the Master Settlement Agreement as defined in § 3.1-336.1 and the accounting firm that calculates payments made under the Master Settlement Agreement.

C. Failure of a tobacco product manufacturer to submit a true and correct copy of the annual return or report required in subsection A shall result, after 30 day's notice, in the loss of such tobacco manufacturer's authority to sell cigarettes in the Commonwealth.

D. The Attorney General may promulgate regulations to implement and carry out the provisions of this section.