

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 27-98 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Fire Prevention Code; local*
3 *inspection fee.*

4 [H 1293]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 27-98 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 27-98. Enforcement of Fire Prevention Code; appeals from decisions of local enforcing agencies;
9 inspection of buildings.

10 Any local government may enforce the Fire Prevention Code in its entirety or with respect only to
11 those provisions of the Fire Prevention Code relating to open burning, fire lanes, fireworks, and
12 hazardous materials. If a local governing body elects to enforce only those provisions of the Fire
13 Prevention Code relating to open burning, it may do so in all or in any designated geographic areas of
14 its jurisdiction. The State Fire Marshal shall also have the authority, in cooperation with any local
15 governing body, to enforce the Code. The State Fire Marshal shall also have authority to enforce the
16 Code in those jurisdictions in which the local governments do not enforce the Code and may establish
17 such procedures or requirements as may be necessary for the administration and enforcement of the
18 Code in such jurisdictions. In addition, subject to the approval of the Board of Housing and Community
19 Development, the State Fire Marshal may charge a fee to recover the actual cost of administering and
20 enforcing the Code in jurisdictions for which he serves as the enforcement authority. No fee may be
21 charged for the inspection of any school. The local governing body of any jurisdiction that enforces the
22 Code may establish such procedures or requirements as may be necessary for the administration and
23 enforcement of the Code. Appeals concerning the application of the Code by the local enforcing agency
24 shall first lie to a local board of appeals and then to the State Building Code Technical Review Board.
25 Appeals from the application of the Code by the State Fire Marshal shall be made directly to the State
26 Building Code Technical Review Board as provided in Article 2 (§ 36-108 et seq.) of Chapter 6 of Title
27 36. Fees may be levied by the local governing body in order to defray the cost of such enforcement and
28 appeals; *however, for the City of Chesapeake no fee charged for the inspection of any place of religious*
29 *worship designated as Assembly Group A-3 under the Fire Prevention Code shall exceed \$50.* Any local
30 fire code may provide for an appeal to a local board of appeals. If no local board of appeals exists, the
31 State Building Code Technical Review Board shall hear appeals of any local fire code violation.

ENROLLED

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