17103430D **HOUSE BILL NO. 1897** 1 **2 3** Offered January 11, 2017 Prefiled January 10, 2017 4 A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-2307.2 and to amend 5 Chapter 435 of the Acts of Assembly of 2014 by adding a third enactment, relating to zoning; 6 aquaculture in agricultural zone. 7 Patrons—Freitas, Bloxom, Hodges and Ransone 8 9 Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns 10 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 11 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-2307.2 as follows: 12 13 § 15.2-2307.2. Protection of aquaculture in an agricultural zone. 14 Any aquaculture use on property that, at the time the use commenced, was located in a zone that 15 allowed production agriculture, but whose zoning has since been changed to disallow production agriculture, shall be considered a valid nonconforming use on the property. As used in this section, 16 "aquaculture" means the same as that term is defined in § 3.2-2600 and "production agriculture" means 17 the same as that term is defined in § 15.2-2288. 18 19

2. That Chapter 435 of the Acts of Assembly of 2014 is amended by adding a third enactment as follows:

3. That the provisions of this act amending § 15.2-2288 of the Code of Virginia are declaratory of existing law.

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