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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1324**

Offered January 10, 2018

*A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-106 and 2.2-107 of the Code of Virginia, relating to membership of the joint subcommittee of the House of Delegates and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections reviewing gubernatorial appointments.*

Patrons—Cole and Landes; Senator: Norment

Referred to Committee on Rules

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 2.2-106 and 2.2-107 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 2.2-106. Appointment of agency heads; disclosure of resumes; severance.**

A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Governor shall appoint the administrative head of each agency of the executive branch of state government except the:

1. Executive Director of the Virginia Port Authority;
2. Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia;
3. Executive Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries;
4. Executive Director of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation;
5. Executive Director of the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board;
6. Librarian of Virginia;
7. Administrator of the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council;
8. Executive Director of the Virginia Housing Development Authority; and
9. Executive Director of the Board of Accountancy.

However, the manner of selection of those heads of agencies chosen as set forth in the Constitution of Virginia shall continue without change. Each administrative head and Secretary appointed by the Governor pursuant to this section shall (i) be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly, (ii) have the professional qualifications prescribed by law, and (iii) serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

B. As part of the confirmation process for each administrative head and Secretary, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall provide copies of the resumes and statements of economic interests filed pursuant to § 2.2-3117 to the chairs of the House of Delegates and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections. For appointments made before January 1, copies shall be provided to the chairs within 30 days of the appointment or by January 7 whichever time is earlier; and for appointments made after January 1 through the regular session of that year, copies shall be provided to the chairs within seven days of the appointment. Each appointee shall be available for interviews by the Committees on Privileges and Elections or other applicable standing committee. For the purposes of this section and § 2.2-107, there shall be a joint subcommittee of the House of Delegates and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections consisting of five members of the House Committee, *to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates*, and three members of the Senate Committee ~~appointed by the respective chairs of the committees, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules,~~ to review the resumes and statements of economic interests of gubernatorial appointees. ~~The members of the House of Delegates shall be appointed in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates.~~ No appointment confirmed by the General Assembly shall be subject to challenge by reason of a failure to comply with the provisions of this subsection pertaining to the confirmation process.

C. For the purpose of this section, "agency" includes all administrative units established by law or by executive order that are not (i) arms of the legislative or judicial branches of government; (ii) institutions of higher education as classified under §§ 22.1-346, 23.1-1100, 23.1-3210, and 23.1-3216; (iii) regional planning districts, regional transportation authorities or districts, or regional sanitation districts; and (iv) assigned by law to other departments or agencies, not including assignments to secretaries under Article 7 (§ 2.2-215 et seq.) of Chapter 2 of this title.

D. The resumes and applications for appointment submitted by persons who are appointed by the Governor pursuant to this section shall be available to the public upon request.

E. Severance benefits provided to any departing agency head, whether or not appointed by the Governor, shall be publicly announced by the appointing authority prior to such departure.

**§ 2.2-107. Appointment of members of commissions, boards, and other collegial bodies; disclosure of resumes.**

A. Except as provided in the Constitution of Virginia, or where the manner of selection of members

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59 of boards and commissions is by election by the General Assembly, or as provided in Title 3.2 or  
60 § 54.1-901, but notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Governor shall appoint  
61 all members of boards, commissions, councils or other collegial bodies created by the General Assembly  
62 in the executive branch of state government to terms of office as prescribed by law. Each member  
63 appointed pursuant to this section shall be subject to confirmation by the General Assembly and shall  
64 have the professional qualifications prescribed by law.

65 As part of the confirmation process for each gubernatorial appointee, the Secretary of the  
66 Commonwealth shall provide copies of the resume and statement of economic interests filed pursuant to  
67 § 2.2-3117 or 2.2-3118, as appropriate, to the chairs of the House of Delegates and Senate Committees  
68 on Privileges and Elections. For the purposes of this section and § 2.2-106, there shall be a joint  
69 subcommittee of the House of Delegates and Senate Committees on Privileges and Elections consisting  
70 of five members of the House Committee, *to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in*  
71 *accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of*  
72 *Delegates*, and three members of the Senate Committee ~~appointed by the respective chairs of the~~  
73 ~~committees, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules~~, to review the resumes and statements of  
74 economic interests of gubernatorial appointees. ~~The members of the House of Delegates shall be~~  
75 ~~appointed in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the~~  
76 ~~House of Delegates~~. No appointment confirmed by the General Assembly shall be subject to challenge  
77 by reason of a failure to comply with the provisions of this paragraph pertaining to the confirmation  
78 process.

79 B. The resumes and applications for appointment submitted by persons who are appointed by the  
80 Governor pursuant to this section shall be available to the public upon request.