

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2023 SESSION

## CHAPTER 541

*An Act to amend and reenact §§ 57-18 and 57-21 of the Code of Virginia, relating to unincorporated bodies, societies, groups, associations, or posts; appointment of trustees.*

[S 1341]

Approved March 26, 2023

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

**1. That §§ 57-18 and 57-21 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 57-18. Conveyance for charitable purpose to unincorporated bodies, societies, groups, associations, or posts.**

In any case where, since June 18, 1914, there has been, or at any time hereafter there may be, (i) any gift, grant, or devise of real estate *or personal property* for charitable purposes to an unincorporated body ~~or~~, society, group, association, or post, including those referenced in § 57-19, whether such gift, grant, or devise be directly to such body ~~or~~, society, group, association, or post or to it in trust for charitable uses, *or* (ii) *a need for appointment or confirmation of election of trustees for such unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post to effect and promote the purpose and object of such unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post*, trustees ~~to hold the same~~ may, if such unincorporated body ~~or~~, society, group, association, or post so elects, be appointed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by § 57-8, and such trustees shall hold the trust subject in accordance with the provisions of §§ 57-11, 57-13, 57-14 ~~and~~, 57-15, 57-15.1, 57-16, and 57-17 in like manner as if such sections had been made expressly applicable to such unincorporated body ~~or~~, society, group, association, or post. For the purposes of this section, the words church, society, denomination, congregation, religious congregation, religious body, religious denomination, and religious congregation or organization, appearing in the aforesaid sections, shall be interpreted to refer to such unincorporated body ~~or~~, society, group, association, or post.

**§ 57-21. May hold personal property through trustees.**

Any such *unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post referenced in § 57-18 or 57-19* may acquire personal property for its use, and hold the same and any such as it may have heretofore acquired, through the intervention of trustees in whom the legal title shall be vested for its benefit; and the circuit court of the ~~county, or the circuit court of the city,~~ *locality* in which the meetings of such *unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post* are usually held, or the judge of such court in vacation, may, on the application of the proper authorities of the *unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post*, from time to time, appoint trustees, either where there were or are none, or in place of former trustees, and change those so appointed, as may seem to the court or judge to be proper; and the legal title to such personal property shall be vested in the trustees, for the time being, and their successors, for the use and benefit of the *unincorporated body, society, group, association, or post*.