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## **HOUSE BILL NO. 2213**

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend and reenact § 63.1-68 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal the fifth enactment of Chapter 755 of the Acts of Assembly of 1992 as amended by Chapter 666 of the Acts of Assembly of 1994, relating to the Board and Department for the Visually Handicapped.

Patrons—Wardrup, Cantor, Cox, Grayson and Van Yahres

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 63.1-68 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 63.1-68. Appointment, terms and qualifications of members of Board; eligibility for reappointment; quorum.

Prior to July 1, 1988, the Virginia Board for the Visually Handicapped, hereinafter sometimes called the Board, shall consist of seven members who shall be appointed by the Governor for terms of seven years each, one term beginning each year. Effective July 1, 1988, the members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor for terms of four years. No person shall be eligible to serve more than two successive terms, provided that a person heretofore or hereafter appointed to fill a vacancy may serve two additional successive terms. Incumbency during a current term when this section becomes effective shall constitute the first of two successive terms with respect to eligibility for reappointment. Vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term. All appointments hereunder shall be made without reference to party affiliations, but solely on account of the fitness of the appointees to discharge their duties as members of the Board. The membership of the Board, however, shall at all times include two four persons who are blind. Four members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any lawful business. Current members of the Board shall serve their appointed terms until expiration, at which time appointments shall be made to reflect the background requirements of Board members as required by this section.

Wherever in the laws of this Commonwealth reference is made to the Virginia Commission for the Blind or to the Virginia Commission for the Visually Handicapped, such reference shall be deemed to be to the Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped or to the Virginia Board for the Visually Handicapped, whichever is appropriate for the context.

2. That the fifth enactment of Chapter 755 of the Acts of Assembly of 1992, as amended by Chapter 666 of the Acts of Assembly of 1994, is repealed.