

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 43, consisting of*  
3 *sections numbered 9-334 and 9-335, relating to establishment of the Virginia Chesapeake Bay*  
4 *Partnership Council.*

5 [H 2251]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**  
8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 9 a chapter numbered 43, consisting of**  
9 **sections numbered 9-334 and 9-335, as follows:**

## 10 CHAPTER 43.

## 11 VIRGINIA CHESAPEAKE BAY PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL.

12 § 9-334. *Virginia Chesapeake Bay Partnership Council established.*

13 *The Virginia Chesapeake Bay Partnership Council, referred to in this chapter as the Council, is*  
14 *hereby established as a permanent legislative agency of the Commonwealth. The Council's purpose is to*  
15 *advise the Governor, the Secretary of Natural Resources and the General Assembly regarding the*  
16 *coordination of Virginia's efforts in the regional Bay program, strategic planning for Bay restoration*  
17 *and implementation of Virginia's commitments.*

18 *In carrying out its duties, the Council shall assist in the coordination of timely and efficient*  
19 *implementation of Bay programs and commitments; review and help disseminate to the public*  
20 *information regarding the restoration progress; consult with Virginia's representatives to the interstate*  
21 *Chesapeake Bay Program; and help facilitate strategic partnerships with businesses, local governments,*  
22 *resource users, environmental and conservation organizations and citizens. The Council shall also*  
23 *nominate persons and organizations to receive the "Friend of the Bay Award" (§ 2.1-51.8:3). The*  
24 *Council shall have no regulatory authority to carry out its duties.*

25 § 9-335. *Membership; terms; compensation.*

26 *The Council shall consist of nineteen members as follows: four citizen members appointed by the*  
27 *Speaker of the House of Delegates; four citizen members appointed by the Senate Committee on*  
28 *Privileges and Elections; four citizen members appointed by the Governor; and the chairs of the House*  
29 *Chesapeake and its Tributaries Committee, the House Conservation and Natural Resources Committee,*  
30 *the Senate Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources Committee and the Chair of the*  
31 *Chesapeake Bay Commission Virginia delegation. The chairs of the three standing committees of the*  
32 *legislature may select a member of their respective committees to serve in their place. Non-voting ex*  
33 *officio members shall include a Virginia representative of the three standing advisory committees of the*  
34 *interstate Chesapeake Bay Program. Citizen members shall include representatives of the scientific and*  
35 *technical community, local government officials, representatives of environmental organizations*  
36 *specifically working on Chesapeake Bay matters, representatives of educational institutions and other*  
37 *interest groups. The Council shall elect a chair from among its legislative members.*

38 *Citizen members shall serve for terms of four years. Legislative members' terms of service shall*  
39 *coincide with their term as chair of their respective committees. Any vacancies shall be filled by the*  
40 *Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, as*  
41 *appropriate. Citizen members shall receive no compensation for their service but shall receive*  
42 *reimbursement for actual expenses. The Council shall meet at the call of the chair or at least three*  
43 *times per year.*

44 *Staffing for the Council shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. All agencies of the*  
45 *Commonwealth with responsibility for Chesapeake Bay-related programs shall assist the Council in its*  
46 *work and deliberations.*

ENROLLED

HB2251ER