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**HOUSE BILL NO. 687** 

Offered January 25, 1994

A BILL to amend and reenact § 55-317 of the Code of Virginia, relating to obligation to build division

Patrons—Orrock and Morgan

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 55-317 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 55-317. Obligation to provide division fences.

Adjoining landowners shall build and maintain, at their joint and equal expense, division fences between their lands, unless one of them shall choose to let his land lie open as hereinafter provided for, or unless they shall otherwise agree between themselves. No owner of land used for industrial or commercial purposes, or subdivided into lots or parcels, adjoining lands used for agricultural purposes, when given notice by the owner of such adjoining lands under § 55-318 shall have the option of choosing to let his land lie open, but shall build one half of such fence or be liable therefor.

Proceedings for the erection and repair of such fences, including when a landowner chooses to let his land lie open, shall be as set forth in the following sections.