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SENATE BILL NO. 938

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-686, relating to a special election before abolishing a constitutional office by change in form of county government.

Patrons—Goode, Hawkins, Holland, C.A., Holland, R.J., Marye and Nolen

Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 6 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-686 as follows:

§ 24.2-686. Special elections; abolition of constitutional office by change in form of government.

The provisions of § 24.2-685 shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to any county seeking to change its form of government pursuant to Chapter 13 of Title 15.1 (§ 15.1-582 et seq.) if the effect of such change in form would be the abolition of an existing office created pursuant to Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution of Virginia. In such case, and before any referendum is held on a change in form of government, there shall be a referendum to submit to the voters a question in substantially the following form:

"Shall the County of be authorized to seek a change in the form of government which would eliminate the elected office(s) of ?"

Approval of a majority of the qualified voters voting in such referendum shall be a condition precedent to the entry of any order requiring the holding of a referendum pursuant to § 15.1-583.