

HOUSE BILL NO. 1896

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Finance

on \_\_\_\_\_)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Byron)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 58.1-1206, 58.1-1207, and 58.1-1212 of the Code of Virginia, relating to bank franchise tax.

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

**1. That §§ 58.1-1206, 58.1-1207, and 58.1-1212 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 58.1-1206. Deductions from gross capital.**

A. There shall be deducted from the gross capital otherwise ascertainable under § 58.1-1205:

1. The assessed value of real estate if otherwise taxed in ~~this~~ the Commonwealth which is owned by such bank, or is used or occupied by such bank, if held in the name of a majority-owned subsidiary of the bank or of a bank holding company which owns a majority of the capital stock of such bank or of any wholly-owned subsidiary of the bank holding company which owns the majority of the capital stock of such bank and the assessed value, up to the amount of the unencumbered equity, of real estate in the nature of improvements which are owned by the bank, or used or occupied by the bank and held by a majority-owned subsidiary or a bank holding company or a wholly-owned subsidiary of a bank holding company, even if assessed in the name of some other person because of the ownership of the underlying land by such person. Real estate used or occupied by a subsidiary or originally conveyed as collateral for loans made by a subsidiary of the bank and reacquired upon foreclosure of mortgage loans will be deemed to be used or occupied by the bank. The deduction for assessed value of real estate shall be the most recent assessment made prior to January 1 of the current bank franchise tax year for real estate owned by the bank or affiliate on January 1 of the current year. Any locality shall provide electronic access to banks for real estate assessment records for such real estate referenced by this section at their request.

27           2. The book value of tangible personal property which shall be held for lease and is otherwise  
28 taxed which is owned by such bank or in the name of a majority-owned subsidiary of the bank. If the bank  
29 does not own all the stock of such subsidiary, it shall be entitled to deduct only such portion of the assessed  
30 value of the real estate and the value of such tangible personal property as the common stock it owns in  
31 such subsidiary bears to the whole issue of common stock of such corporation.

32           3. An amount which shall equal the same percentage of the gross capital account, defined as its  
33 capital, surplus and undivided profits as set forth in § 58.1-1205 at December 31 next preceding as the  
34 obligations of the United States bear to the total assets of the bank. Such percentage of U.S. obligations  
35 shall be determined as of the four most recent (or less in case of a new bank) Reports of Condition and  
36 the percentage obtained shall be averaged. For purposes of computing such percentage, total assets shall  
37 not include the goodwill described in subdivision 5. The obligations of the United States as used herein  
38 shall include all obligations of the United States exempt from taxation under 31 U.S.C. § 3124, of the  
39 United States Constitution or any other statute, or any instrumentality or agency of the United States which  
40 obligations shall be exempt from state or local taxation under the United States Constitution or any statute  
41 of the United States.

42           4. The amount of retained earnings and surplus of subsidiaries to the extent included in the gross  
43 capital of the bank. In addition, any portion of the amount added to federal taxable income pursuant to  
44 subdivision B 9 of § 58.1-402 by a corporation that is for interest expenses and costs paid to the bank for  
45 a loan or other obligation made by the bank to such corporation shall be deducted from the gross capital  
46 of the bank provided that (i) at the time of payment of such portion to the bank, the bank was a related  
47 member of the corporation, and (ii) such portion has not otherwise been deducted from gross capital. For  
48 purposes of this subdivision, the terms "interest expenses and costs" and "related member" mean the same  
49 as those terms are defined in § 58.1-302.

50           5. Any amount equal to 90 percent of goodwill created in connection with any acquisition or  
51 merger occurring on or after July 1, 2001.

52           B. For purposes of this section, "goodwill" shall be determined using generally accepted  
53 accounting principles.

54           **§ 58.1-1207. Filing of return and payment of tax.**

55           A. Each bank as defined in § 58.1-1201 as of January 1 of each year shall prepare and file  
56 electronically with the commissioner of the revenue or comparable assessing officer of the county, city or  
57 town where the principal office of the bank is located on or before March 1, a return ~~in duplicate which~~  
58 that shall set forth the tax on net capital as computed under this chapter. ~~The return shall be in a form~~  
59 ~~prescribed by the Department of Taxation.~~ The Department of Taxation shall maintain a secure online  
60 portal to receive returns and other required submissions under this chapter in a manner prescribed by the  
61 Department for use by commissioners of the revenue or other assessing officers of any locality in accepting  
62 filed returns and certifying and transmitting returns to the Department. The commissioner of the revenue  
63 or comparable assessing officer shall certify a copy of the bank's return and schedules and shall forthwith  
64 transmit such certified copy to the Department of Taxation. Additionally, ~~a~~ an electronic copy of the real  
65 estate deduction schedules and the apportionment under § 58.1-1211 shall be filed with the appropriate  
66 assessing officer of each political subdivision imposing a tax on the filing bank. Such return shall set forth  
67 the tax on net capital owing to each such political subdivision as computed under this chapter and shall  
68 include the listing of the real estate, as assessed for the prior year, as well as a description of the total of  
69 the obligations of the United States and the average percentage thereof on the four dates prescribed in  
70 subdivision 3 of § 58.1-1206. Every bank, on or before June 1 of each year, shall pay into the state treasury  
71 the state taxes assessed under this chapter and into the treasurer's office or other official of the local  
72 political subdivisions all taxes assessed by such political subdivision.

73           B. In accordance with procedures established by the Tax Commissioner, any bank may elect an  
74 extension of time within which to file the tax return required under this chapter to the date 60 days after  
75 such due date. Such form shall be submitted to the Department of Taxation and the commissioner of the  
76 revenue or other assessing officer of any locality in which the bank is required to file.

77           **§ 58.1-1212. Record of deposits through branches required.**

78           Each bank ~~in this~~ the Commonwealth that has as of the beginning of any tax year a bank located  
79 in any county, incorporated town or city other than the county, incorporated town or city wherein such  
80 bank's principal office is located, shall maintain a record of the deposits through each such branch as of

81 the beginning of the tax year. Each bank shall also electronically submit to the commissioner of the  
82 revenue or other assessing officer of the locality wherein such principal office is located a report of such  
83 deposits with the return required under § 58.1-1207.

84 **2. That the provisions of the first enactment of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2025.**

85 **3. That the Department of Taxation shall convene a work group to assess potential alternative**  
86 **methods for the filing and allocation of bank franchise tax revenues for consideration in the 2024**  
87 **Session of the General Assembly. At a minimum, the work group shall evaluate proposals to allow**  
88 **banks to submit their bank franchise tax payments to the Commonwealth, the formula used to**  
89 **redistribute funds to local governments, the impact of the new method of collecting and distributing**  
90 **funds on counties, cities, and towns, the timeline for implementation of any proposed changes, and**  
91 **the cost to the Commonwealth and local governments of implementing these changes. The work**  
92 **group shall include representatives from the Virginia Bankers Association, Virginia Association of**  
93 **Counties, Virginia Municipal League, and Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia**  
94 **and other relevant stakeholders. The work group shall report its findings and recommendations to**  
95 **the General Assembly by December 1, 2023.**

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