

HOUSE BILL NO. 1751

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Privileges and Elections

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Davis)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-673.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections; conduct of election; ranked choice voting; local governing bodies and school boards.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 24.2-673.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 24.2-673.1. (Expires July 1, 2031) Ranked choice voting.

A. For purposes of this section:

"Ranked choice voting" means a method of casting and tabulating votes in which (i) voters rank candidates in order of preference, (ii) tabulation proceeds in rounds such that in each of round either a candidate or candidates are elected or the last-place candidate is defeated, (iii) votes for voters' next-ranked candidates are transferred from elected or defeated candidates, and (iv) tabulation ends when the number of candidates elected equals the number of offices to be filled. "Ranked choice voting" is known as "instant runoff voting" when electing a single office and "single transferable vote" when electing multiple offices.

"Ranking" means the ordinal number assigned on a ballot by a voter to a candidate to express the voter's preference for that candidate. Ranking number one is the highest ranking, ranking number two is the next-highest ranking, and so on, consecutively, up to the number of candidates indicated on the ballot.

B. Elections of members of ~~a county board of supervisors or a city council~~ the governing body and the school board in any locality may be conducted by ranked choice voting pursuant to this section. The decision to conduct ~~an election~~ such elections by ranked choice voting shall be made, in consultation with the local electoral board and general registrar, ~~by~~ and shall require a majority vote of ~~both the board of supervisors or city council~~ both the board of supervisors or city council that the office being elected serves local governing body and the school board.

26 C. The State Board may promulgate regulations for the proper and efficient administration of
27 elections determined by ranked choice voting, including (i) procedures for tabulating votes in rounds, (ii)
28 procedures for determining winners in elections for offices to which only one candidate is being elected
29 and to which more than one candidate is being elected, and (iii) standards for ballots pursuant to § 24.2-
30 613, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection E of that section.

31 D. The State Board may administer or prescribe standards for a voter outreach and public
32 information program for use by any locality conducting ranked choice voting pursuant to this section.

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