

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 15.2-5502 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Heart of Appalachia Tourism*  
 3 *Authority; quorum.*

4 [H 305]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 15.2-5502 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 15.2-5502. Directors; qualifications; terms; vacancies; compensation and expenses; quorum;**  
 9 **records; certification and distribution of report concerning bond issuance.**

10 The Authority shall be governed by a board of directors of 18 representatives in which all powers of the  
 11 Authority shall be vested and which board shall include eight Tourism Directors representing each county  
 12 and the City of Norton, which will hold permanent seats on the board. If a Tourism Director position does not  
 13 exist in a locality, the governing body shall appoint a representative, preferably from the government staff,  
 14 chamber of commerce, or travel industry to represent the locality on the board of directors. The remaining  
 15 seats shall be filled preferably by representatives from the travel industry from each of the eight governing  
 16 localities. Each Tourism Director, working with the tourism committee from the localities, shall provide a  
 17 slate of nominations to the governing body for selection of one representative, preferably from the tourism  
 18 industry segment, which may include the chairman of the local tourism committee; a representative from  
 19 lodging, restaurants, attractions, parks, or outdoor recreation; or a community leader. The board of directors  
 20 shall create two ~~ex-officio nonvoting~~ board positions for representatives from the Jefferson National Forest  
 21 Clinch Ranger District Office and Virginia State Parks, *and such representatives shall serve ex officio with*  
 22 *nonvoting privileges*. Appointed representatives shall serve a two-year term that begins on January 1 and may  
 23 be reappointed for additional terms with appointments made at the year-end board meeting. The board of  
 24 directors shall have the authority to appoint nonvoting tourism representatives and to determine additional  
 25 seats as they deem necessary.

26 The directors shall elect from their membership a chair, a vice-chair, and from their membership or not, as  
 27 they desire, a secretary and a treasurer, or a secretary-treasurer, who shall continue to hold such office until  
 28 their respective successors are elected. The directors shall receive no salary, but the directors may be  
 29 reimbursed for necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

30 The board of directors may remove from the board any appointed member in the event that the board  
 31 member is absent from any three consecutive board meetings or is absent from any four board meetings  
 32 within any 12-month period. In either such event, the local governing body shall appoint a successor for the  
 33 unexpired portion of the term of the member who has been removed.

34 ~~Ten~~ *Eight* members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum of the board for the purposes of  
 35 conducting its business and exercising its powers and for all other purposes. No vacancy in the membership  
 36 of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the  
 37 board. The board shall keep detailed minutes of its proceedings, which shall be open to public inspection at  
 38 all times. It shall keep suitable records of its financial transactions and, unless exempted by § 30-140, it shall  
 39 arrange to have the records audited annually. Copies of each such audit shall be furnished to the governing  
 40 bodies of the participating localities and shall be open to public inspection.

ENROLLED

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