

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - 2026 SESSION

CHAPTER 101

An Act to amend and reenact § 15.2-4304 of the Code of Virginia, relating to agricultural and forestal districts advisory committee; membership.

[H 292]

Approved April 6, 2026

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-4304 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-4304. Agricultural and forestal districts advisory committee.

A. Upon receipt of the first agricultural and forestal districts application, the local governing body shall establish an advisory committee which shall consist of four landowners who are engaged in agricultural or forestal production, four other landowners of the locality, the commissioner of revenue or the local government's chief property assessment officer *or a representative from his office*, and a member of the local governing body. The members of the committee shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the local governing body. The advisory committee shall elect a chairman and a vice-chairman and elect or appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the committee. The advisory committee shall serve without pay but the locality may reimburse each member for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his duties. Any expenditures of the committee shall be within the amounts appropriated for such purpose by the local governing body. The committee shall advise the local planning commission and the local governing body and assist in creating, reviewing, modifying, continuing or terminating districts within the locality. In particular, the committee shall render expert advice as to the nature of farming and forestry and agricultural and forestal resources within the district and their relation to the entire locality.

B. The local governing body may designate the planning commission to act for and in lieu of an agricultural and forestal districts advisory committee if the membership of the planning commission includes at least four landowners who are engaged in agricultural or forestal production.