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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1997

ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 2886

Passed	April 12,	1997
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(By Delegate <u>≤</u>	Dudfoot, Buchanan, Boggs, An Claypole, Border and Overing	

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H. B. 2886

(By Delegates Proudfoot, Buchanan, Boggs, Anderson, Claypole, Border and Overington)

[Passed April 12, 1997; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section sixteen, article one, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to natural resources commission; expanding composition of commission to nine members; and designating certain members to represent the several state wildlife resources administrative districts and class two property owners actively engaged in agricultural production.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section sixteen, article one, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§20-1-16. Natural resources commission.

- 1 (a) The natural resources commission, created and 2 established by provisions of section three of this article,
- 3 shall be a public benefit corporation and, as such, may sue
- 4 and be sued, plead and be impleaded, contract and be
- 5 contracted with, and have and use a common seal. The
- 6 commission shall advise the director and the division of
- 7 natural resources.
- 8 (b) Beginning the first day of July, one thousand 9 nine hundred ninety-seven, the commission shall be com-

- 10 posed of nine members, known as commissioners, ap-
- 11 pointed by the governor, by and with the advice and con-
- 12 sent of the Senate. The commissioners shall be appointed
- 13 as follows:
- 14 (1) One from each of the six state wildlife resources
- 15 administrative districts, which are divided into counties as
- 16 follows:
- 17 (A) District 1—Barbour, Brooke, Hancock, Harrison,
- 18 Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor,
- 19 Tucker and Wetzel:
- 20 (B) District 2—Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy,
- 21 Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan and Pendleton;
- 22 (C) District 3—Braxton, Clay, Lewis, Nicholas,
- 23 Pocahontas, Randolph, Upshur and Webster;
- 24 (D) District 4—Fayette, Greenbrier, McDowell, Mer-
- 25 cer, Monroe, Raleigh, Summers and Wyoming;
- 26 (E) District 5—Boone, Cabell, Kanawha, Lincoln,
- 27 Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam and Wayne; and
- 28 (F) District 6—Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Jackson
- 29 Pleasants, Roane, Ritchie, Tyler, Wirt and Wood;
- 30 (2) One class-two property owner actively engaged in
- 31 the production of agricultural products on such land; and
- 32 (3) Two from the state at large.
- 33 (c) The terms of office of the commissioners shall
- 34 begin on the first day of July of the year of appointment
- 35 and shall be for a period of seven years. The governor, in
- making the initial appointments, shall designate and define
- 37 respective terms of office so that the term of one member
- Tespective terms of office so that the term of one memori
- 38 of the commission will expire each year. As initial ap-
- 39 pointments expire, all subsequent appointments shall be
- 40 for terms of seven years or for the unexpired term of a
- 41 member who may have died, resigned or become disquali-
- 42 fied: Provided, That nothing herein shall affect the term
- 43 of those commissioners appointed on or before the thirti-

- 44 eth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-45 seven.
- (d) The members of the commission shall be citizens and residents of the state: *Provided*, That each of the commissioners appointed pursuant to this section on or after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-seven, must not be a resident of the same county.
- 51 (e) The members of the commission shall be selected 52 based on training and experience in relation to the princi-53 pal activities required of the commission, and for the abili-54 ty and fitness to perform duties within the purposes of this 55 chapter.
- (f) No member of the commission shall be a candidate for or hold any public office other than that of member of the commission; nor shall he be a member of any committee of a political party. In case a member becomes a candidate for or accepts appointment to any public office or political party committee, his office as member of the commission shall be immediately vacated.

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The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly purolled
Chairman Sphale Committee
Chairman House Committee
Originating in the House.
Takes effect ninety days from passage. Clerk of the Senate
Clerk of the House of Delegates Sel Conclude President of the Senate
Speaker of the House of Delegates
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