

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).
 () Form 3 Holdings Reported
 (X) Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person

BASSETT, III, JOHN E
 BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC
 P O BOX 626
 245 MAIN STREET
 BASSETT, VA 24055
 USA

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.
 BSET

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

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4. Statement for Month/Year

JANUARY 12, 1998

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

() Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
 (specify below)

VICE PRESIDENT--DIRECTOR OF WOOD MANUFACTURING

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)

() Form filed by One Reporting Person
 () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	A/ D	Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
COMMON STOCK	11-07-97	A*	3324	A		19,299	D	
						750	I	WIFE
						3,118	I	JEB IV-SON
						3,118	I	JTB-SON
						3,118	I	HFB-SON
*RESTRICTION ON SALE-LIFTED AFTER 5 YEARS CONTINUOUS SERVICE (EARLIER UPON DEATH OR RETIREMENT)								

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Date/Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	28.00				3-02-93	8-31-2002 COMMON	3571	3750	D	
					1994	" "	179			
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	37.40				1994	1-25-2003 COMMON	2538	3750	D	
					1995	" "	1212			
**OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	26.25				1-01-95	5-04-04 COMMON	1000	1000	D	
**OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	22.625				11-07-97	5-06-07 COMMON	2000	2000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

*GRANTED UNDER THE 1982 STOCK OPTION PLAN, WHICH IS A RULE 16b-3 PLAN.

**GRANTED UNDER THE 1993 LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN WHICH IS A RULE 16b-3

PLAN.
SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
JOHN E. BASSETT, III
DATE
1-12-98