

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

( ) Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.  
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person  
 HERVEY, JAY R  
 BASSETT FURNITURE INDUSTRIES, INC.  
 245 MAIN STREET  
 P O BOX 626  
 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)  
 ###-##-####
4. Statement for Month/Year  
 MAY 8, 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, GENERAL COUNSEL AND SECRETARY
7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (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)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Amount	A/D				Price
COMMON STOCK	3-24-98	A*	V	1,365	A		D	
*RESTRICTED UNTIL 11-07-02; CONTINUOUS SERVICE REQUIRED								
THROUGH 11-07-02 (OR, IF EARLIER, RETIREMENT). RESTRICTIONS								
LIFTED UPON DEATH OR DISABILITY.								

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)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				Amount	A/D	Exercisable Date	Expiration Date					
*OPTION (RIGHT TO BUY)	22.625					11-07-97	5-06-2007	COMMON	1500	1500	D	

Explanation of Responses:  
 \*GRANTED UNDER THE 1993 LONG TERM INCENTIVE PLAN, WHICH IS A RULE 16b-3 PLAN  
 SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON  
 JAY R. HERVEY  
 DATE  
 MAY 8, 1998