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HOUSE BILL NO. 1524

Offered January 26, 2000

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 a section numbered 18.2-152.7:1, relating to harassment by computer; penalties.

Patron—Albo

Consent to introduce

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 a section numbered 18.2-152.7:1 as follows:

§ 18.2-152.7:1. Harassment by computer.

A. If any person, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, shall use a computer or computer network to communicate obscene, vulgar, profane, lewd, lascivious, or indecent language, or make any suggestion or proposal of an obscene nature, or threaten any illegal or immoral act, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

B. If any person, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person, shall use a computer or computer network to communicate the personal information of another without permission of the subject of the information, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

C. Upon conviction for a second or subsequent offense of this section, the sentence shall include a mandatory, minimum term of imprisonment of ninety days, none of which may be suspended in whole or in part.