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HOUSE BILL NO. 197

Offered January 12, 2000

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-60 of the Code of Virginia, relating to oral or written threats to commit acts of violence on school property; penalty.*

Patrons—Sherwood and Weatherholtz

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 18.2-60 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 18.2-60. Threats of death or bodily injury to a person or member of his family; certain oral threats communicated to school personnel; oral or written threats to commit acts of violence on school property; penalty.

A. If any person write or compose and also send or procure the sending of any letter, inscribed communication or electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, so written or composed, whether such letter or communication be signed or anonymous, to any person, containing a threat to kill or do bodily injury to the person to whom such letter or communication is sent, or a threat to kill or do bodily injury to any member of his or her family, the person so writing or composing and sending or procuring the sending of such letter or communication shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony and may be prosecuted either in the county, city or town in which the letter or inscribed communication is composed, written, sent or procured to be sent or in the county, city or town in which the letter or inscribed communication is received.

B. If any person orally makes a threat to any employee of any elementary, middle or secondary school, while on a school bus, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity, to kill or to do bodily injury to such person, he shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

*C. If any person (i) orally makes a threat or (ii) writes or composes and also sends or procures the sending of any letter, inscribed communication or electronically transmitted communication producing a visual or electronic message, so written or composed, whether such letter or communication be signed or anonymous, to any person, containing a threat to commit an act of violence on any elementary, middle or secondary school property or at a school-sponsored event, the person shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony and may be prosecuted either in the county, city or town in which the letter or inscribed communication is composed, written, sent or procured to be sent or in the county, city or town in which the oral threat, letter or inscribed communication is received.*

**2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state correctional facilities. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is \$0 in FY 2010.**

INTRODUCED

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