

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 27 of Title 9 an article numbered 1.7,*  
3 *consisting of a section numbered 9-173.21, relating to the Virginia Center for School Safety.*

4 [H 391]

5 Approved

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

7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 27 of Title 9 an article numbered**  
8 **1.7, consisting of a section numbered 9-173.21, as follows:**

9 *Article 1.7.*10 *Virginia Center for School Safety.*11 *§ 9-173.21. Virginia Center for School Safety created; duties.*

12 *A. From such funds as may be appropriated, the Virginia Center for School Safety is hereby*  
13 *established within the Department of Criminal Justice Services and shall be referred to in this section as*  
14 *the Center. The Center shall:*

15 *1. Provide training for Virginia public school personnel in school safety and the effective*  
16 *identification of students who may be at risk for violent behavior and in need of special services or*  
17 *assistance;*

18 *2. Serve as a resource and referral center for Virginia school divisions by conducting research,*  
19 *sponsoring workshops, and providing information regarding current school safety concerns, such as*  
20 *conflict management and peer mediation, school facility design and technology, current state and federal*  
21 *statutory and regulatory school safety requirements, and legal and constitutional issues regarding school*  
22 *safety and individual rights;*

23 *3. Maintain and disseminate information to local school divisions on effective school safety initiatives*  
24 *in Virginia and across the nation;*

25 *4. Collect, analyze, and disseminate various Virginia school safety data, including school safety audit*  
26 *information, collected by the Department;*

27 *5. Encourage the development of partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote*  
28 *school safety in Virginia;*

29 *6. Provide technical assistance to Virginia school divisions in the implementation of initiatives*  
30 *promoting school safety; and*

31 *7. Develop a memorandum of understanding between the Commissioner of the Department of*  
32 *Criminal Justice Services and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to ensure collaboration and*  
33 *coordination of roles and responsibilities in areas of mutual concern, such as school safety audits and*  
34 *crime prevention.*

35 *B. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the Center and, upon request, assist the*  
36 *Center in the performance of its duties and responsibilities.*

37 **2. That the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating**  
38 **the purposes of this act is included in the 2000 Appropriation Act, passed during the 2000 Session**  
39 **of the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor.**

ENROLLED

HB391ER