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HOUSE BILL NO. 801

Offered January 21, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-19 of the Čode of Virginia, relating to agreements for the administration of the Standards of Learning assessments in private schools.

Patrons—Ruff, Christian, Councill, Crittenden, Davis, Dillard, Drake, Reid and Suit

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-19 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-19. Accreditation of elementary, middle, and high schools; nursery schools; child day center regulation; certain agreements with private schools.

A. The Board shall provide for the accreditation of public elementary, middle, and high schools in accordance with standards prescribed by it. The Board may provide for the accreditation of private elementary, middle, and high schools in accordance with standards prescribed by it, taking reasonably into account the special circumstances and factors affecting such private schools. The Board in its discretion may recommend provisions for standards for private nursery schools. Any such accreditation shall be at the request of the private school only.

B. The Board may enter into agreements for the administration of the Standards of Learning assessments prescribed pursuant to § 22.1-253.13:1 in private schools at the request of a private school in the Commonwealth. Such agreements shall provide that any such assessment administration be provided at a cost equal to the direct and indirect costs to the Commonwealth of such administration, scoring, analysis, or other related services. Such costs shall be paid entirely by the relevant private school to ensure that no state or local funds are expended for any such assessment administration, scoring, analysis, or other related services.

C. The Board shall promulgate accreditation regulations that incorporate, but may exceed, the regulations for child day centers promulgated by the Child Day-Care Council, for those child day centers described in subdivision A 7 of § 63.1-196.001.