

2001 SESSION

INTRODUCED
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1561

Offered January 10, 2001

Prefiled August 31, 2000

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-460 of the Code of Virginia, relating to obstruction of justice; penalty.

Patron—Jones, J.C.

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-460 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-460. Obstructing justice.

A. If any person without just cause knowingly obstructs a judge, *clerk or deputy clerk of any court*, magistrate, justice, juror, attorney for the Commonwealth, witness or any law-enforcement officer in the performance of his duties as such or fails or refuses without just cause to cease such obstruction when requested to do so by such judge, *clerk*, magistrate, justice, juror, attorney for the Commonwealth, witness, or law-enforcement officer, he shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor.

B. If any person, by threats or force, knowingly attempts to intimidate or impede a judge, *clerk or deputy clerk of any court*, magistrate, justice, juror, attorney for the Commonwealth, witness, or any law-enforcement officer, lawfully engaged in his duties as such, or to obstruct or impede the administration of justice in any court, he shall be deemed to be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

C. If any person by threats of bodily harm or force knowingly attempts to intimidate or impede a judge, *clerk or deputy clerk of any court*, magistrate, justice, juror, witness, or any law-enforcement officer, lawfully engaged in the discharge of his duty, or to obstruct or impede the administration of justice in any court relating to a violation of or conspiracy to violate § 18.2-248 or § 18.2-248.1 (a) (3), (b) or (c), or relating to the violation of or conspiracy to violate any violent felony offense listed in subsection C of § 17.1-805, he shall be guilty of a Class 5 felony.

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 cannot be determined.

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