HOUSE BILL NO. 2547

Offered January 10, 2001 Prefiled January 10, 2001

A BILL to amend and reenact § 16.1-290 of the Code of Virginia, relating to support of committed juvenile.

Patron-Katzen

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 16.1-290 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 16.1-290. Support of committed juvenile; support from estate of juvenile.

A. Whenever (i) legal custody of a juvenile is vested by the court in someone other than his parents or (ii) a juvenile is (a) placed in temporary shelter care regardless of whether or not legal custody is retained by his parents, or (b) placed in temporary physical custody of the Department pursuant to subdivision 4a of § 16.1-278.8, or (c) committed to the Department pursuant to subdivision A. 14. of § 16.1-278.8 or § 16.1-285.1, after due notice to the parents or other persons legally obligated to care for and support the juvenile, and after an investigation and hearing, the court shall order and decree that the parent or other legally obligated person shall pay, in such a manner as the court may direct, a reasonable sum commensurate with the ability to pay, that will cover all or part of the cost of support and treatment of the juvenile after the decree is entered. If the parent or other legally obligated person willfully fails or refuses to pay such sum, the court may proceed against him for contempt, or the order may be filed and shall have the effect of a civil judgment.

B. If a juvenile has an estate in the hands of a guardian or trustee, the guardian or trustee may be required to pay for his education and maintenance so long as there may be funds for that purpose.

C. Whenever a juvenile is placed in foster care by the court, the court shall order and decree that the parent or other legally obligated person shall pay the Department of Social Services pursuant to §§ 20-108.1, 20-108.2, 63.1-204.2, and 63.1-251.3.