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HOUSE BILL NO. 999

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice on January 28, 2002)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate McDonnell)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 17.1-100, relating to judicial performance evaluation program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 17.1-100 as follows:

§ 17.1-100. Judicial performance evaluation program.

The Supreme Court, by rule, shall establish and maintain a judicial performance evaluation program that will provide a self-improvement mechanism for judges and a source of information for the reelection process. By September 1 of each year, the Supreme Court, or its designee, shall transmit a report of the evaluation in the final year of the term of each justice and judge whose term expires during the next session of the General Assembly to the Chairmen of the House and Senate Committees for Courts of Justice.

2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2004.

3. That the Supreme Court shall establish a one-year pilot program for judicial performance evaluation beginning January 1, 2003, provided, that sufficient funds to implement the pilot evaluation program are appropriated by the general appropriation act.