

2003 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1574

Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled December 20, 2002

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 18 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-345.1, relating to parenting programs; Department of Correctional Education.*

Patrons—Hamilton, Darner and Devolites

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 18 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-345.1 as follows:

§ 22.1-345.1. Parenting programs.

The Department of Correctional Education shall arrange for noncustodial parent offenders committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections to be afforded the opportunity to participate in pre- and post-release parenting programs that include parenting-skills training, anger management, and literacy skills. The programs shall be administered by the Department of Correctional Education either directly or by contract and shall include integration with transitional programs and at least 1 community corrections, work release, or community confinement program. The Department of Correctional Education shall be responsible for designating individuals to those programs and individuals may be required to establish, reestablish, or maintain family ties and communications in order to continue to participate in the programs.

Individuals participating in any community corrections, work release, or community confinement program approved by the Department of Correctional Education and the Secretary of Public Safety may also be required to obtain employment or otherwise participate in work programs from which a portion of their earned income may be collected for funding of the program and for partial support of immediate family members and children who are Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients at that time.

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