

2003 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1795

Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled January 7, 2003

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-238 of the Code of Virginia, relating to selection of social studies textbooks for public schools.

Patron—Jones, D.C.

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-238 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-238. Approval of textbooks and appliances; decodability.

A. The Board of Education shall approve textbooks suitable for use in the public schools and shall have authority to approve instructional aids and materials for use in the public schools.

Any school board may use textbooks not approved by the Board provided the school board selects such books in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board.

B. In approving basal textbooks for reading in kindergarten through first grade, the Board shall report to local school boards those textbooks with a minimum decodability standard based on words that students can correctly read by properly attaching speech sounds to each letter to formulate the word at seventy percent or above for such textbooks.

C. *In approving textbooks for social studies, the Board shall report to local school boards those textbooks that reflect the history of minorities in the Commonwealth, consistent with the requirement that the Standards of Learning for social studies be supplemented to ensure the study of contributions to society of diverse people, as required by § 22.1-253.13:1.*

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