HOUSE BILL NO. 150

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice on February 9, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Albo)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 53.1-131.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to fees paid by inmates in jail.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 53.1-131.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 53.1-131.3. Payment of costs associated with jail inmates.

A. Any sheriff or jail superintendent may establish a program to charge inmates a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$1 per day, to defray the costs associated with the prisoners' inmates' keep. The Board shall develop a model plan and adopt regulations for such program, and shall provide assistance, if requested, to the sheriff or jail superintendent in the implementation of such program. Such funds shall be retained in the locality where the funds were collected and shall be used for general jail purposes.

B. To defray the costs associated with housing inmates convicted of any violation enumerated in subsection E of § 18.2-270, any sheriff or jail superintendent may charge such an inmate, for each night spent in the facility, an amount equal to the average annual cost to house an inmate for one day at that facility, or he may charge \$70 per day, whichever is less. However, regardless of the number of nights spent at the facility by the inmate, the sheriff or jail superintendent may not charge the inmate for more than five nights, or \$350, whichever is less.

C. Any funds collected hereunder shall be retained in the locality where the funds were collected and shall be used for general jail purposes.