

2006 SESSION

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

063940382

HOUSE BILL NO. 592

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety
on February 3, 2006)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Lohr)

A BILL to establish a pilot program encouraging law-enforcement officers to learn a second language.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. The Harrisonburg City Police Department and the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department shall develop a program to encourage law-enforcement officers employed by those Departments to gain proficiency in a language other than English. Such proficiency may be achieved through enrollment in language classes offered through the Virginia Community College System, distance learning opportunities, or any other available educational resources.

§ 2. The Harrisonburg Chief of Police and the Rockingham County Sheriff shall develop guidelines and procedures governing participation and completion of the program, including the establishment of an incentive program for gaining proficiency in a language other than English. The Chief of Police and Sheriff shall identify available resources for learning a second language, including but not limited to enrollment in language classes offered at a community college, distance learning opportunities, or the establishment of any other programs or opportunities.

§ 3. Participation in the program shall be limited to a total of 25 officers.

2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on January 1, 2009.

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HB592H1