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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1633** 

Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled November 9, 2006

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 37.2-420.1, relating to providers of mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services; retaliation or discrimination prohibited.

Patron-Morgan

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 37.2-420.1 as follows:

§ 37.2-420.1. Retaliation or discrimination against complainants.

No group home or residential facility licensed or funded by the Department shall retaliate or discriminate in any manner against any person who in good faith complains or provides information to, or otherwise cooperates with, the Department or any other agency of government or any person or entity operating under contract with an agency of government, having responsibility for protecting the rights of residents of a group home or residential facility, or in good faith reports a violation of any of the provisions of § 37.2-400 or any regulation adopted under any provision of § 37.2-400 or of this article that adversely affects the human rights of consumers or poses an imminent and substantial threat to the health, safety, or welfare of consumers.