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HOUSE BILL NO. 1920

Offered January 10, 2007 Prefiled January 4, 2007

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 12 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-187.1, relating to a school bus safety hotline.

Patron—Peace

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 Article 1 of Chapter 12 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-187.1 as follows:

§ 22.1-187.1. School bus safety hotline; subscription; guidelines.

- A. The Board of Education shall establish a statewide school bus safety hotline within the Division of Pupil Transportation of the Department of Education, to which local school divisions may subscribe so that the citizens of the subscribing localities may be able to report dangerous driving behavior of school bus drivers.
- B. The Board of Education shall develop guidelines for the service that shall include, but not be limited to (i) the administration of the fee-based subscription service; and (ii) the procedure that the school divisions electing to subscribe shall follow.
- C. The subscription shall be on an annual basis and school divisions participating shall be responsible for the cost of the bumper stickers bearing the number of the hotline.
- D. Beginning on January 1, 2009, the Division of Pupil Transportation shall compile all the data collected through the hotline into an annual report to be sent to the participating local school divisions on a quarterly basis.
- 2. That the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless and until 25 percent of the school divisions in the Commonwealth elect to subscribe to the service. Further, if the provisions of this act become effective and thereafter the participation rate falls below 25 percent, then the provisions of this act shall expire.