

2007 SESSION

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

072381488

HOUSE BILL NO. 2625

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Education

on January 31, 2007)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Reid)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to prisoners with learning disabilities.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-344.1. Literacy program.

In coordination with the Department of Corrections and the Parole Board, the Superintendent shall develop a functional literacy program for inmates testing below a selected grade level, which shall be at least at the eighth grade level. The program shall include guidelines for implementation and test administration, participation requirements, and criteria for satisfactory completion.

For the purposes of this section, the term "functional literacy" shall mean those educational skills necessary to function independently in society, including, but not limited to, reading, writing, comprehension, and arithmetic computation.

In evaluating a prisoner's educational needs and abilities pursuant to § 53.1-32.1, the Superintendent, in cooperation with the Department of Corrections, shall create a system for identifying prisoners with learning disabilities.

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