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HOUSE BILL NO. 1426

Offered January 14, 2008

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 16.1-231.1, relating to recording courtroom proceedings; juvenile and domestic relations district court.

Patron—Griffith

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 16.1-231.1 as follows:

§ 16.1-231.1. Recording of proceedings in juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

In all proceedings in a juvenile and domestic relations district court, a party or his counsel may provide for the recording verbatim of the evidence and incidents of any proceeding either by a court reporter or by mechanical or electronic devices. If the court determines that the mechanical or electronic devices proposed to be used by a party or his counsel cannot be reasonably accommodated by existing courtroom facilities, the court may require that the party or his counsel use a court reporter. The administration of this section shall be under the direction of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

INTRODUCED