

2009 SESSION

INTRODUCED

098254617

HOUSE BILL NO. 1968

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 13, 2009

A BILL to amend and reenact § 19.2-298 of the Code of Virginia, relating to failure to comply with sentencing order; penalty.

Patron—Massie

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 19.2-298 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 19.2-298. Pronouncement of sentence.

After a finding of guilty, sentence shall be pronounced, or decision to suspend the imposition of sentence shall be announced, without unreasonable delay. Pending pronouncement, the court may commit the accused to jail or may continue or alter the bail except that in those cases where the accused is convicted of a murder in the first degree, the court shall commit him to jail and he shall not be allowed bail pending the pronouncement of sentence. Before pronouncing the sentence, the court shall inquire of the accused if he desires to make a statement and if he desires to advance any reason why judgment should not be pronounced against him.

Any person who willfully and knowingly violates a sentencing order of a court by failing to surrender himself to jail at the time ordered by the court is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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