

2009 SESSION

INTRODUCED

097758460

HOUSE BILL NO. 2314

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 14, 2009

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 52-6.2, relating to the State Police Volunteer Chaplaincy Program.

Patrons—Carrico, Athey, BaCote, Barlow, Bell, Bowling, Byron, Cole, Cosgrove, Cox, Crockett-Stark, Frederick, Gear, Gilbert, Griffith, Hamilton, Hargrove, Howell, W.J., Ingram, Janis, Johnson, Jones, Kilgore, Landes, Lingamfelter, Lohr, Marshall, R.G., Massie, Merricks, Miller, J.H., O'Bannon, Oder, Pogge, Poindexter, Purkey, Putney, Sherwood, Tata, Ware, R.L. and Wright; Senators: Blevins, Cuccinelli, McDougle, Puckett, Stuart, Vogel and Wampler

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 52-6.2 as follows:

§ 52-6.2. Volunteer Chaplaincy Program.

The Superintendent of State Police shall have the authority to establish a Volunteer Chaplaincy Program, enabling employees of the Department trained in ministry to serve as volunteer chaplains. Duties of the volunteer chaplains shall be established by order of the Superintendent and may include, but are not limited to, providing employees of the Department and their families with spiritual counseling and guidance, and providing invocations and benedictions at Department-sanctioned events and ceremonies. The Superintendent may establish guidelines regarding the selection, conduct, and supervision of the volunteer chaplains in the Volunteer Chaplaincy Program; however, the Superintendent shall not regulate, limit, or otherwise dictate the religious content of the volunteer chaplains' expression of religious beliefs, prayers, invocations, benedictions, spiritual counseling, or spiritual guidance.

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