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HOUSE BILL NO. 2344

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 14, 2009

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered § 22.1-207.4, relating to adolescent literacy.*

Patron—Amundson

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered § 22.1-207.4 as follows:**

§ 22.1-207.4. *Middle and high school benchmarks for student achievement in reading established; local school division adolescent literacy policies and action plans required.*

A. *By July 1, 2010, the Board of Education shall establish benchmarks for student achievement in reading in grades six through 12 to be implemented by local school divisions in English, history and social science, science, and math. The reading benchmarks shall incorporate specific instructional practices for such grade levels and subjects. The Board shall provide for the systematic infusion of reading benchmarks in designated Standards of Learning, in order that achievement may be evaluated through assessments already required by § 22.1-253.13:3. Additionally, the Board shall provide resources and technical assistance to local school divisions in implementing subsection B of this section and shall (i) identify and analyze effective research-based literacy programs and practices and (ii) collect and disseminate among school divisions information regarding such programs and practices and potential funding and support sources. The Board may also provide resources supporting professional development for teachers in the delivery of literacy programs and achievement of an endorsement as a reading specialist.*

B. *By July 1, 2011, each local school board shall develop a comprehensive adolescent literacy policy and action plan in order to implement the Board of Education benchmarks for student achievement in reading in grades six through 12. Such policy and plan shall be submitted annually to the Board of Education for review.*

INTRODUCED

HB2344