

# 2009 SESSION

## HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

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### HOUSE BILL NO. 2458

#### AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Health, Welfare, and Institutions  
on February 3, 2009)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate O'Bannon)

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-137.01, relating to posting of charity care policies.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-137.01 as follows:**

*§ 32.1-137.01. Posting of charity care policies.*

*All hospitals shall provide written information about the hospital's charity care policies, including policies related to free and discounted care. Such information shall be posted conspicuously in public areas of the hospital, including admissions or registration areas, emergency departments, and associated waiting rooms. Information regarding specific eligibility criteria and procedures for applying for charity care shall be (i) provided to a patient at the time of admission or discharge, or at the time services are provided, (ii) included with any billing statements sent to uninsured patients, and (iii) included on any website maintained by the hospital.*

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