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**SENATE BILL NO. 1450**

Offered January 20, 2009

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-977, relating to registration of cemeteries; penalty.*

Patrons—Colgan and Puller; Delegates: Miller, J.H. and Nichols

Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

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

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-977 as follows:**

*§ 15.2-977. Registration by locality of cemeteries, graveyards, or other places of burial on private property; penalty.*

*A. Any locality may adopt an ordinance setting forth a register of cemeteries, graveyards, or other places of burial located on private property not belonging to any memorial or monumental association. The official local register may include an official map.*

*B. Any person or group who willfully or maliciously destroys, mutilates, defaces, injures, or removes any object or structure permanently attached or affixed to any tomb, monument, gravestone, or other structure or human remains placed within any cemetery, graveyard, or place of burial, or within any lot listed on a locality's register of cemeteries, graveyards, or other places of burial is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Any person convicted under this section shall be ordered to pay appropriate restitution to any aggrieved party.*

INTRODUCED

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