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HOUSE BILL NO. 1238

Offered January 15, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 23-9.2:9 of the Code of Virginia, relating to crisis and emergency management for public institutions of higher education.

Patrons-Torian, Ebbin, Howell, A.T., James, Keam, Kory, LeMunyon, McQuinn and Surovell

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 23-9.2:9 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 23-9.2:9. Institutional crisis and emergency management plan; review required; annual live emergency drill required.

A. The board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education shall develop, adopt, and keep current a written crisis and emergency management plan. The plan shall include a provision that the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund shall be contacted immediately to deploy assistance in the event of an emergency as defined in the emergency response plan when there are victims as defined in § 19.2-11.01, as well as current contact information for both.

B. Every four years, each institution shall conduct a comprehensive review and revision of its crisis and emergency management plan to ensure the plan remains current, and the revised plan shall be adopted formally by the board of visitors or other governing body. Such review shall also be certified in writing to the Department of Emergency Management. In addition, the members of the threat assessment team, as defined by § 23-9.2:10, and the president and vice-president of each public institution of higher education, or in the case of the Virginia Military Institute, the superintendent, shall annually certify in writing to the Department of Emergency Management comprehension and understanding of the institution's crisis and emergency management plan. The institution shall coordinate with the local emergency management organization, as defined by § 44-146.16, to ensure integration into the local emergency operations plan.

C. Each public institution of higher education shall annually conduct a live emergency drill in accordance with the protocols established by the institution's crisis and emergency management plan.