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HOUSE BILL NO. 361

Offered January 13, 2010 Prefiled January 12, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 53.1-131.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to disposition of fees for prisoners' keep; regional jails.

Patron—Ware, O.

Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 53.1-131.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 53.1-131.3. Payment of costs associated with prisoners' keep.

Any sheriff or jail superintendent may establish a program to charge inmates a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$3 per day, to defray the costs associated with the prisoners' keep. The Board shall develop a model plan and adopt regulations for such program, and shall provide assistance, if requested, to the sheriff or jail superintendent in the implementation of such program. Such funds shall be retained in the locality where the funds were collected and shall be used for general jail purposes; however, in the event the jail is a regional jail, funds collected from any such fee shall be eredited to the participating locality whose inmate was charged the fee retained by the regional jail. Any person jailed for an offense they are later acquitted for shall be refunded any such fees paid during their incarceration.