

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 22.1 a section numbered*
3 *22.1-7.1, relating to enrollment in public schools.*

4 [H 603]

5 Approved

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

7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 22.1 a section numbered**
8 **22.1-7.1 as follows:**

9 *§ 22.1-7.1. Open school enrollment policy.*

10 *A. Any local school board may establish and implement policies to provide for the open enrollment*
11 *to any school of any student residing within the school division upon the request of a parent or*
12 *guardian. In developing such policies, a local school board may include the following conditions and*
13 *limitations:*

14 *1. An application process whereby a parent or guardian indicates a school preference for purposes*
15 *of his child attending a school in the child's school division but outside of the attendance area in which*
16 *the child resides;*

17 *2. A requirement that the parent or guardian provide transportation for the student attending a*
18 *school other than his assigned school;*

19 *3. A requirement that a student may be disqualified from attending a school other than his assigned*
20 *school if he has been subject to a specified disciplinary action;*

21 *4. A prohibition on the recruitment of a student from one school to another by a school division*
22 *employee;*

23 *5. A limitation on participation in certain athletic activities for a student who chooses to attend a*
24 *school other than his assigned school;*

25 *6. A random, unbiased selection process in the event open enrollment requests exceed the capacity of*
26 *a school;*

27 *7. A provision that a student shall be permitted to remain at the receiving school until the student*
28 *has completed the highest grade level in the school; and*

29 *8. A preference to a student (i) who resides in a location that has been subject to a change in school*
30 *attendance area during the previous two years, (ii) who has a sibling attending the receiving school, or*
31 *(iii) whose parent or guardian is an employee of the receiving school.*

32 *B. A copy of the school division's policies for open enrollment, if any, shall be posted on the*
33 *division's website and shall be available to the public upon request.*

34 *C. Nothing in this section shall interfere with a local school board's authority to adopt a pupil*
35 *placement plan pursuant to § 22.1-79.*

36 *D. For the purposes of this section, "open enrollment" means a policy adopted and implemented by a*
37 *local school board to allow any student to enroll in any school within the school division of attendance*
38 *regardless of the location of the student's residence.*

ENROLLED

HB603ER