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HOUSE BILL NO. 1205

Offered January 17, 2014

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 22.1-290.2 and 22.1-290.3, relating to student teachers; fingerprinting, criminal history records check, and child abuse and neglect registry data.

 Patron—Yost

 Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 22.1-290.2 and 22.1-290.3 as follows:

§ 22.1-290.2. Student teachers; fingerprinting and criminal history records check.

A. For purposes of this section:

"Student teacher" means any student enrolled at a public institution of higher education who has applied for admission to a program for the initial or advanced preparation of professional educators in which the student will (i) participate in a classroom teaching, internship, clinical, or field experience in the Commonwealth and (ii) perform classroom teaching or assist in education programs, under the supervision of education preparation program faculty, in a public elementary or secondary school.

B. Each student teacher may be required to submit to fingerprinting and provide personal identifying information to the faculty of the education preparation program in which he is enrolled to be forwarded along with his fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining his criminal history information. Each student teacher shall pay the full cost of any search conducted pursuant to this subsection.

C. The Central Criminal Records Exchange shall forward the results of the state and national criminal history records check to the faculty of the education preparation program in which the student is enrolled.

D. The Board of Education shall develop guidelines for the faculty of each education preparation program to use to decide whether to deny a student teacher placement in a classroom teaching, internship, clinical, or field experience on the basis of the information obtained pursuant to subsection C.

§ 22.1-290.3. Student teachers; child abuse and neglect registry data.

A. For purposes of this section, "student teacher" has the same meaning as provided in § 22.1-290.2.

B. The faculty of the education preparation program of each public institution of higher education may require each student teacher shall provide the necessary personal identifying information to conduct a search of the central registry of founded complaints of child abuse and neglect maintained by the Department of Social Services pursuant to § 63.2-1515 in conformance with the regulations of the State Board of Social Services. In addition, each student teacher who has resided in another state within the last five years shall determine whether he was the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect in another state and shall provide the necessary personal identifying information to obtain information from each relevant state as to whether he was the subject of a founded complaint of child abuse or neglect in such state. Each student teacher shall pay the full cost of any search conducted pursuant to this subsection.

C. Each student teacher shall forward the information that he received from any registry of founded complaints of child abuse and neglect, pursuant to subsection B, to the faculty of the education preparation program in which he is enrolled.

D. The Board of Education shall develop guidelines for the faculty of each education preparation program to use to decide whether to deny a student teacher placement in a classroom teaching, internship, clinical, or field experience on the basis of the information obtained pursuant to subsection C.

INTRODUCED

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