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HOUSE BILL NO. 221

Offered January 8, 2014 Prefiled December 27, 2013

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-3.5, relating to students admitted to certain children's residential facilities.

Patron—Bell, Richard P.

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-3.5 as follows:

§ 22.1-3.5. Students admitted to certain children's residential facilities.

A. For the purposes of this section, "school division of residence" means the school division in which the student's parents reside.

B. Each student admitted under a physician's order, due to medical necessity and not solely for school purposes, to a children's residential facility licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall immediately be enrolled in an education program that is comparable to that which is provided in the school division of residence. Children's residential facilities licensed and certified by the Board of Education may provide such education programs, provided that the Board of Education periodically monitors the education programs delivered in children's residential facilities that it licensed and certified.

C. The school division of residence shall transfer on a monthly basis to each children's residential facility that admits a student pursuant to this section funds necessary to cover the expenses of providing a comparable education program for such student.

D. The school division of residence shall help facilitate the discharge of each student admitted to a children's residential facility pursuant to this section and, upon discharge, shall facilitate the reenrollment of each such student in the appropriate school in the school division.