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**HOUSE BILL NO. 961**

Offered January 8, 2014

Prefiled January 8, 2014

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-273.3, relating to elementary and secondary school students; screening for dyslexia and related disorders.*

Patrons—Kory, BaCote, Lopez, Plum, Rasoul, Sickles and Surovell

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 22.1-273.3 as follows:**

**§ 22.1-273.3. Screening for dyslexia and related disorders.**

*A. For the purposes of this section:*

*"Dyslexia" means a disorder of constitutional origin manifested through a discrepancy between ability and achievement in learning to read, write, or spell, despite conventional instruction and sociocultural opportunity.*

*"Related disorders" means disorders similar to dyslexia, including developmental auditory imperception, dysgraphia, specific developmental dyslexia, developmental dysgraphia, and developmental spelling disability.*

*B. Each student in grades kindergarten through six who enrolls in a local school division shall be screened for dyslexia and related disorders using the tools and methods prescribed by the Board and within a reasonable amount of time following enrollment. The Board may provide by regulation for such additional screenings as it deems necessary.*

INTRODUCED

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