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SENATE BILL NO. 1592

Offered January 24, 2017

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 16.1-241.4, relating to juvenile and domestic relations district court; jurisdiction over juveniles who are not lawfully present in the United States.

Patron—Black

Unanimous consent to introduce

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 16.1-241.4 as follows: § 16.1-241.4. Jurisdiction over juveniles who are not lawfully present.

If a juvenile is not lawfully present in the United States, the court shall not make a finding that it is not in the best interests of such juvenile to return to his home country for the purposes of eligibility for special immigrant juvenile classification.

This section shall not apply if the court makes such finding for the purposes of making determinations required by the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (§ 20-146.1 et seq.) or the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption of 1993, as amended.