

18102229D

**HOUSE BILL NO. 227**

House Amendments in [ ] — January 23, 2018

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 63.2-1242 of the Code of Virginia, relating to adoption by stepparent; background check.*

---

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate Stolle

---

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 63.2-1242 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 63.2-1242. Investigation and report at discretion of circuit court.**

For adoptions under this article, an investigation and report shall be undertaken only if the circuit court in its discretion determines that there should be an investigation before a final order of adoption is entered. *In determining whether an investigation and report should be required, the circuit court shall consider the results of a national criminal history background check conducted on the prospective adoptive parent in accordance with the provisions of subsection B of § 19.2-392.02.* If the circuit court ~~makes such a determination~~ *determines that an investigation and report should be required*, it shall refer the matter to the local director for an investigation and report to be completed within such time as the circuit court designates. If an investigation is ordered, the circuit court shall forward a copy of the petition and all exhibits thereto to the local director and the provisions of § 63.2-1208 shall apply.

**[ 2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2020. ]**

ENGROSSED

HB227E