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HOUSE BILL NO. 4

Offered January 10, 2018

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A *BILL to amend and reenact § 17.1-502 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public accessibility of case management system.*

Patrons—Mullin, Adams, D.M., Simon and Hurst

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 17.1-502 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 17.1-502. Administrator of circuit court system.**

A. The Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court shall be the administrator of the circuit court system, which includes the operation and maintenance of a case management system, *which, subject to § 17.1-293, shall be open to the public*, and a financial management system and related technology improvements. *Such case management system shall be searchable, across all localities, by party name; charge, for criminal cases; filing type, for civil cases; hearing date; and case number. In addition to the searchable system, the entire compilation of records contained therein shall be made available upon request.*

B. Any circuit court clerk may establish and maintain his own case management system, financial management system, or other independent technology using automation or technology improvements provided by a private vendor or the locality. Any data from the clerk's independent system may be provided directly from such clerk to designated state agencies. The data from the clerk's independent system may also be provided to designated state agencies through an interface with the technology systems operated by the Executive Secretary.

C. The Executive Secretary shall provide an electronic interface with his case management system, financial management system, or other technology improvements upon written request of any circuit court clerk. The circuit court clerk and the clerk's designated application service provider shall comply with the security and data standards established by the Executive Secretary for any such electronic interface. The Executive Secretary shall establish security and data standards for such electronic interfaces on or before June 30, 2013, and such standards shall be consistent with the policies, standards, and guidelines established pursuant to § 2.2-2009.

D. The costs of designing, implementing, and maintaining any such interface with the systems of the Executive Secretary shall be the responsibility of the circuit court clerk. Prior to incurring any costs, the Office of the Executive Secretary shall provide the circuit court clerk a written explanation of the options for providing such interfaces and provide the clerk with a proposal for such costs and enter into a written contract with the clerk to provide such services.

E. The Executive Secretary shall assist the chief judges in the performance of their administrative duties. He may employ such staff and other assistants, from state funds appropriated to him for the purpose, as may be necessary to carry out his duties, and may secure such office space as may be requisite, to be located in an appropriate place to be selected by the Executive Secretary.

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