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HOUSE BILL NO. 701

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 9, 2018

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 30-12 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the streaming of General Assembly meetings.*

Patrons—Levine and Murphy; Senator: Chase

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 30-12 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 30-12. Duties of officers of each house.**

A. *As used in this section, unless the context requires a different meaning:*

"Meeting" means a meeting the date and time of which have been scheduled on a public website of any agency of the General Assembly for at least one hour prior to the meeting and that takes place in the State Capitol, the Pocahontas Building, or the General Assembly Building in the City of Richmond.

"Streamed" means to transmit audio and video content in compressed form over the Internet to allow end users to view the content in real time.

B. The several officers of each house of the General Assembly shall perform such duties as shall be required of them by their respective houses.

C. 1. The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate shall implement procedures to ensure that (i) every subcommittee or committee meeting of a standing committee of the General Assembly, regardless of whether the meeting occurs during a regular or special session of the General Assembly or when the General Assembly is not in session, and (ii) every floor session of the House of Delegates or the Senate, including any joint session of the houses, shall be streamed with closed captioning.

2. No meeting in subdivision 1 shall be streamed during such time the meeting is closed pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 2.2-3712 for a public body to convene a closed meeting. However, such meeting shall continue to be streamed until the subcommittee, committee, or house(s) actually begins meeting in closed session. Thereafter, such meeting shall be streamed immediately upon such time that the subcommittee, committee or house(s) reconvenes in an open meeting and takes a roll call or other recorded vote to certify that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Chapter 37 (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.) of Title 2.2 and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the subcommittee, committee, or house(s), as required under subsection D of § 2.2-3712.

D. The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate shall ensure that any meeting required to be streamed under subsection C is also recorded and archived for the purpose of making the same available to the public for viewing.

2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on October 1, 2018.

INTRODUCED

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