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SENATE BILL NO. 368

Offered January 10, 2018 Prefiled January 9, 2018

A BILL to amend and reenact § 23.1-902 of the Code of Virginia, relating to education preparation programs; reading specialists; dyslexia.

Patrons—Newman, Black and Suetterlein; Delegate: Bell, John J.

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 23.1-902 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 23.1-902. Education preparation programs offered by institutions of higher education.

A. Education preparation programs offered by public institutions of higher education and

A. Education preparation programs offered by public institutions of higher education and private institutions of higher education shall meet the requirements for accreditation and program approval as prescribed by the Board of Education in its regulations.

B. As provided in § 22.1-298.2, the Board of Education shall prescribe an assessment of basic skills for individuals seeking entry into an approved education preparation program and shall establish a minimum passing score for such assessment. The Board of Education may prescribe in its regulations other requirements for admission to approved education preparation programs in the Commonwealth.

C. Any candidate who fails to achieve the minimum score established by the Board of Education may be denied entrance into an education preparation program on the basis of such failure, but any such candidate who gains entrance and enrolls in an education preparation program shall have the opportunity to address all deficiencies.

D. Each education preparation program offered by a public institution of higher education or private institution of higher education that leads to a degree, concentration, or certificate for reading specialists shall include coursework or other training in the identification of and the appropriate interventions, accommodations, and teaching techniques for students with dyslexia or a related disorder.