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HOUSE BILL NO. 2303

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled January 8, 2019

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 9.1-906.1, relating to sex offenders in emergency shelters; notification; registration.*

Patron—Leftwich

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 9.1-906.1 as follows:

§ 9.1-906.1. Emergency shelters; notification; registration.

A. Any person required to register or reregister who enters any place or facility that is designated by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof as an emergency shelter and operated in response to a state or local emergency declared pursuant to Chapter 3.2 (§ 44-146.13 et seq.) of Title 44 shall, as soon as practicable after entry, notify a member of the emergency shelter's staff who is responsible for providing security at the emergency shelter that such person is a registered sex offender. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

B. Upon being notified by such person that he is a registered sex offender, the emergency shelter's staff may access the Registry information regarding such person that is publicly available on the Internet pursuant to § 9.1-913 and use such information to ensure the safety of all persons residing in the emergency shelter. The use of such Registry information pursuant to this section does not constitute a violation of § 9.1-918.

2. That the Department of State Police shall provide to any person required to register on the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry at the time of his initial registration a summary of the provisions of this act.

INTRODUCED

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