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SENATE BILL NO. 1096

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice
on January 16, 2019)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Howell)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-56.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to allowing access to firearms by minors; penalty.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-56.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-56.2. Allowing access to firearms by minors; penalty.

A. It shall be is unlawful for any person to recklessly leave a loaded, unsecured firearm in such a manner as to endanger the life or limb of any child person under the age of fourteen 18. Any person violating the provisions of this subsection shall be is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor.

B. It shall be is unlawful for any person knowingly to authorize a child under the age of twelve 12 to use a firearm except when the child is under the supervision of an adult. Any person violating this subsection shall be is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. For purposes of this subsection, "adult" shall mean means a parent, guardian, person standing in loco parentis to the child, or a person twenty-one 21 years of age or over older who has the permission of the parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to supervise the child in the use of a firearm.