

# 2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

20104003D

## HOUSE BILL NO. 703

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 6, 2020

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-79.7 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school meal debt; donations.*

Patrons—Roem, Hope, Kory, Lopez, Murphy and Subramanyam

Referred to Committee on Education

### Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-79.7 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

#### § 22.1-79.7. School meal policies; donations.

A. Each local school board shall adopt policies that:

1. Prohibit school board employees from requiring a student who cannot pay for a meal at school or who owes a school meal debt to do chores or other work to pay for such meals or wear a wristband or hand stamp; and

2. Require school board employees to direct any communication relating to a school meal debt to the student's parent. Such policy may permit such communication to be made by a letter addressed to the parent to be sent home with the student.

B. Any school board may solicit and receive any donation or other funds for the purpose of eliminating or offsetting any school meal debt at any time during the school year and shall use any such funds solely for such purpose, provided, however, that no such funds shall be obtained in an illegal or illicit manner. If a school board receives a donation that does not entirely eliminate or offset the total school meal debt at any time during the school year, the school board shall distribute the donation proportionately among each school meal debt.

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