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SENATE BILL NO. 619

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health
on February 6, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Deeds)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-298.6, relating to certain school board employees; mental health awareness training required.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-298.6 as follows:

§ 22.1-298.6. Mental health awareness training.

A. Each local school board shall adopt and implement policies that require each school board employee deemed to be in need of such training to complete mental health awareness training once every 10 years.

B. The Department of Education shall make available to each school board employee identified in accordance with subsection A mental health awareness training and may contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, an institution of higher education, a community services board, a behavioral health authority, a nonprofit organization experienced in behavioral health and teen suicide prevention, or a certified trainer as defined in § 37.2-312.2 to provide such training.

C. Any school board employee identified in accordance with subsection A who completes mental health awareness training provided by the local school division will have met the requirements of subsection A.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

SB619S1