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HOUSE BILL NO. 5048

Offered August 18, 2020 Prefiled August 17, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-37.01, relating to outbreaks of communicable disease of public health threat; posting of information.

Patrons—Sickles, Subramanyam, Mugler, Adams, D.M., Aird, Ayala, Bourne, Bulova, Carr, Carter, Cole, J.G., Filler-Corn, Gooditis, Guy, Guzman, Hayes, Helmer, Herring, Hope, Hudson, Jenkins, Keam, Kory, Krizek, Levine, Lindsey, Lopez, McQuinn, Murphy, Plum, Price, Rasoul, Samirah, Simonds, Tran and Watts; Senator: Ebbin

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-37.01 as follows: § 32.1-37.01. Posting of information about cases of communicable disease of public health threat. A. As used in this section:

"Reporting entity" means a medical care facility, residential or day program, service or facility licensed or operated by any agency of the Commonwealth, school, or summer camp required to report an outbreak of a communicable disease pursuant to § 32.1-37.

B. Upon declaration of an emergency by the Governor pursuant to § 44-146.17 in response to a communicable disease of public health threat, the Department shall make information regarding outbreaks of such communicable disease of public health threat reported pursuant to § 32.1-37 available to the public on a website maintained by the Department, provided the release of such information does not violate the provisions of § 32.1-41. Such information shall include (i) the name of the reporting entity at which an outbreak of such communicable disease of public health threat has been reported; (ii) the number of confirmed cases of such communicable disease of public health threat reported by such reporting entity; and (iii) the number of deaths resulting from such communicable disease of public health threat reported by such reporting entity.