21100931D **HOUSE BILL NO. 1975** 1 2 3 4 Offered January 13, 2021 Prefiled January 11, 2021 A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 23.1-610.2, relating to public 5 institutions of higher education; tuition and mandatory fee waivers; survivors of criminal sexual 6 assault and certain other sex crimes. 7 Patron—Rush (By Request) 8 9 Referred to Committee on Education 10 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia: 11 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 23.1-610.2 as follows: 12 13 § 23.1-610.2. Survivors of criminal sexual assault and certain other sex crimes; tuition and 14 mandatory fee waivers; counseling. 15

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, an individual shall be eligible for counseling at no cost and a waiver of tuition and mandatory fees at any public institution of higher education if, when such individual was under the age of 18 and a resident of the Commonwealth, he became the victim of criminal sexual assault as set forth in Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2, sex trafficking as defined in 22 U.S.C. § 7102, or child pornography as set forth in 18.2-374.1, as evidenced by the conviction of the perpetrator of such crime.

B. Any individual who receives a waiver pursuant to subsection A shall remain eligible for such waiver if he maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a scale of 4.0 or its equivalent.

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