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HOUSE BILL NO. 2258

Offered January 13, 2021

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 19.2-387.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Substantial Risk Order Registry; maintenance and access.*

Patrons—Simonds, Sullivan and Levine

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 19.2-387.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 19.2-387.3. Substantial Risk Order Registry; maintenance; access.

A. The Department of State Police shall keep and maintain a computerized Substantial Risk Order Registry (the Registry) for the entry of orders issued pursuant to § 19.2-152.13 or 19.2-152.14. The purpose of the Registry shall be to assist the efforts of law-enforcement agencies to protect their communities and their citizens, *and to monitor and evaluate the administration and effectiveness of §§ 19.2-152.13 and 19.2-152.14.* The Department of State Police shall make the Registry information available, upon request, to criminal justice agencies, including local law-enforcement agencies, through the Virginia Criminal Information Network. *The Department of State Police shall, for the purpose of (i) monitoring and evaluating the impact of these provisions on public safety and (ii) assessing the fairness of the administration of these provisions, make the Registry information available upon request to institutions of higher education and other research organizations or institutions in the Commonwealth. The information from the Registry may be combined with other data held by the Commonwealth to enable the Department of State Police to remove from the Registry the name and all personal identifying information of any person, and to release such information to research organizations in the Commonwealth.* Registry information provided under this section shall be used only for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice as defined in § 9.1-101, *except as otherwise provided in this subsection.*

B. No liability shall be imposed upon any law-enforcement official who disseminates information or fails to disseminate information in good faith compliance with the requirements of this section, but this provision shall not be construed to grant immunity for gross negligence or willful misconduct.

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