

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21101496D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1998

Offered January 13, 2021

Prefiled January 11, 2021

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-137.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public schools; lock-down drills; annual requirement.*

Patrons—Murphy, Keam, Ayala, Plum, Rasoul, Simonds and Subramanyam

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-137.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-137.2. Lock-down drills.

A. In every public school there shall be a lock-down drill at least ~~twice~~ *once* during the first 20 school days of each school session, in order that students and teachers may be thoroughly practiced in such drills. Every public school shall hold at least one additional lock-down drill after the first 60 days of the school session. Every public school shall provide the parents of enrolled students with at least 24 hours' notice before the school conducts any lock-down drill, provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be construed to require such notice to include the exact date and time of the lock-down drill.

B. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students shall be exempt from mandatory participation in lock-down drills during the first 60 days of the school session. Local school boards shall develop policies to implement such exemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection, each pre-kindergarten and kindergarten student shall participate in each lock-down drill after the first 60 days of each school session.

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