

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

21104103D

HOUSE BILL NO. 2147

FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by Delegate Jones

on January 29, 2021)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Herring)

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 5 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 5, consisting of a section numbered 2.2-525, relating to Department of Law; Division of Civil Rights created; duties.*

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 5 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 5, consisting of a section numbered 2.2-525, as follows:

Article 5.

Division of Civil Rights.

§ 2.2-525. Division of Civil Rights created; duties.

There is created in the Department of Law a Division of Civil Rights (the Division) that shall have the power and duty to investigate and enforce or refer to proper enforcement authority:

1. Crimes involving the nonpayment of wages under § 40.1-29 and the misclassification of workers under § 40.1-28.7:7.

2. Violations of the Virginia Human Rights Act (§ 2.2-3900 et seq.) based on an individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Division's jurisdiction under this subdivision shall be exclusive.

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