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HOUSE BILL NO. 2167

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice
on February 3, 2023)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Williams)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 7 of Title 18.2 an article numbered 9, consisting of a section numbered 18.2-324.3, relating to workplace violence; penalty.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 7 of Title 18.2 an article numbered 9, consisting of a section numbered 18.2-324.3, as follows:

*Article 9.**Workplace Violence; Violence in Certain Public Places.***§ 18.2-324.3. Workplace violence; violence in certain public places; penalty.**

A. Any person who commits an act of violence as defined in subsection A of § 19.2-297.1 at (i) such person's place of employment or former place of employment, or at any other workplace of the same employer, whether on or off duty and whether during or outside of normal business hours, (ii) a place of worship, including any education building or community center owned or leased by a place of worship, (iii) a courthouse, or (iv) a hospital, as defined in § 18.2-57, is guilty of a Class 3 felony.

B. Violation of this section shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. Such punishment shall be separate and apart from, and shall be made to run consecutively with, any punishment for the offense that constitutes the act of violence.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities; therefore, Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022, Special Session I, requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.