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HOUSE BILL NO. 2457

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Education on January 30, 2023)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Batten)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-298.8, relating to public elementary and secondary school teachers; temporary employment; frequency of certain training activities; report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-298.8 as follows:

§ 22.1-298.8. Public elementary and secondary school teachers; certain training activities;

No public elementary or secondary school teacher shall be required to participate more frequently than once every five years in any training described in subsection C of § 22.1-271.3, subsection C of § 22.1-274.6, or clause (iii) of subsection A of § 22.1-279.6 or relating to secure mandatory test violations as set forth in §§ 22.1-19.1 and 22.1-292.1. Each such teacher who completes any such training shall sign a written attestation that the teacher has been trained in and understands the relevant subject matter.

2. That each local school board shall report to the Board of Education and the General Assembly no later than October 1, 2023, on the frequency with which each public elementary and secondary school teacher in the local school division participates in each required training or professional development activity.

3. That notwithstanding the provisions of § 22.1-302 of the Code of Virginia that permit a school board to employ a temporarily employed teacher to fill a teacher vacancy for a period of time not to exceed 90 days during one school year unless otherwise approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction on a case-by-case basis, during the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, any school board may employ such a temporarily employed teacher to fill such a vacancy for a period of time not to exceed 180 days during one school year. Each such temporarily employed teacher shall be at least 18 years of age and shall hold a high school diploma or have passed a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education, but no such teacher shall be required to be employed pursuant to a written contract or to hold a license issued by the Board of Education.