

2024 SESSION

INTRODUCED

24101293D

HOUSE BILL NO. 255

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 4, 2024

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 an article numbered 21, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-73.21, relating to adult wellness screening; sickle cell anemia or sickle cell trait.

Patrons—Mundon King, Anthony, Askew, Clark, Cole, Convirs-Fowler, Henson, Hope, LeVere Bolling, Martinez, McQuinn, Price, Rasoul, Shin, Simon, Tran and Willett

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 an article numbered 21, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-73.21, as follows:

Article 21.

Adult Wellness Screening.

§ 32.1-73.21. Adult wellness screening for the disease of sickle cell anemia or the sickle cell trait.

In order to prevent intellectual disability and permanent disability or death, every adult resident of the Commonwealth shall be subjected to screening tests for the disease of sickle cell anemia or the sickle cell trait.

Any adult who objects thereto on the grounds that such tests conflict with his religious practices or tenets shall not be required to receive such screening tests.

The health care professional in charge of the adult's annual health examination shall cause such tests to be performed. The screening tests shall be performed by the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services or any other laboratory with which the Department of Health has contracted to provide such service.

The program for screening adults for the disease of sickle cell anemia or the sickle cell trait shall be conducted in addition to the programs provided for in Article 8 (§ 32.1-68 et seq.).

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