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HOUSE BILL NO. 889

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice on February 14, 1994)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Plum)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-11.1, relating to punishment for felonies and misdemeanors; hate crimes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-11.1 as follows:

§ 18.2-11.1. Penalty enhancement upon conviction of offenses perpetrated on the basis of hate. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 18.2-10 or § 18.2-11, if a person intentionally selects the person against whom an offense under this title is committed or intentionally selects the property which is damaged or otherwise affected by a violation of this title, because of the race, religion, color, disability or national origin of the person against whom the crime is committed or the owner or occupant of the property, the penalty upon conviction of the offense shall include a mandatory, minimum term of incarceration of one year.