

LD8675360

HOUSE BILL NO. 1525

Offered January 11, 1995

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 16.1-309.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to exception to confidentiality of juvenile records.*

Patrons—Moore, Christian, Diamonstein, Dillard and Reynolds; Senators: Earley and Saslaw

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That 16.1-309.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 16.1-309.1. Exception as to confidentiality.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, where consideration of public interest requires, the judge shall make available to the public the name and address of a juvenile and the nature of the offense for which a juvenile has been adjudicated delinquent (i) for an act which would be a Class 1, 2 or 3 felony, forcible rape, robbery or burglary or a related offense as set out in Article 2 (§ 18.2-89 et seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 if committed by an adult or (ii) in any case where a juvenile is sentenced as an adult in circuit court in consideration of the public interest, a judge shall make available to the public the nature of the offense and the name and address of a juvenile who is alleged to be delinquent on the basis of an offense which would be a felony if committed by an adult.

Whenever a juvenile, charged with a delinquent act which would be forcible rape, robbery, burglary or a related offense as set out in Article 2 (§ 18.2-89 et seq.) of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 or a Class 1, 2, or 3 felony if committed by an adult, becomes a fugitive from justice any time prior to or after final disposition of the charge, the attorney for the Commonwealth or, upon notice to the Commonwealth's attorney, the Department of Youth and Family Services or a locally operated court services unit may petition the court having jurisdiction of the offense to authorize public release of the juvenile's name, age, physical description and photograph, the charge for which he is sought or for which he was adjudicated and any other information which may expedite his apprehension. Upon a showing that the juvenile is a fugitive and for good cause, the court shall order release of this information to the public.

Upon the request of a victim of a delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by an adult, the court may order that such victim be informed of the charge or charges brought, the findings of the court, and the disposition of the case. For purposes of this section, "victim" shall be defined as in § 19.2-299.1.

Upon request, the judge or clerk may disclose if an order of emancipation of a juvenile pursuant to § 16.1-333 has been entered, provided (i) the order is not being appealed, (ii) the order has not been terminated, or (iii) there has not been a judicial determination that the order is void ab initio.

INTRODUCED

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