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SENATE BILL NO. 876

Senate Amendments in [] — February 3, 1995

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 19.2-38.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to magistrates; training standards.*

Patrons—Goode; Delegate: Reynolds

Referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 19.2-38.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 19.2-38.1. Training standards; training prerequisite to reappointment; waiver.

The Committee on District Courts shall establish minimum training standards for magistrates in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be established by the Committee. Every magistrate appointed to an original term commencing on or after July 1, 1980, shall comply with the minimum training standards established by the Committee on District Courts and such magistrates must complete the minimum training standards as a prerequisite for continuing to serve as magistrate beyond the six-month probationary period as established by § 19.2-38. All magistrates shall be required to complete the minimum training standards prior to reappointment for a new term. The Committee on District Courts upon request may waive any portion of the minimum training standards for an individual magistrate.

Every magistrate appointed to an original term commencing on or after July 1, 1985, shall be required to have a high school diploma or General Education Development Certificate.

Every magistrate appointed to an original term commencing on or after July 1, 1995, shall be required to have a bachelor's degree [from an accredited institution of higher learning] or equivalent experience.

ENGROSSED

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