

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1996 SESSION

CHAPTER 769

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-52.1, relating to possession or release of hazardous infectious substances; penalty.

[H 1099]

Approved April 6, 1996

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-52.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 18.2-52.1 as follows:

§ 18.2-52.1. Possession of infectious biological substances.

A. Any person who possesses, with the intent thereby to injure another, an infectious biological substance capable of causing death, is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

B. Any person who destroys or damages, or attempts to destroy or damage, any facility, equipment or material involved in the sale, manufacturing, storage or distribution of an infectious biological substance capable of causing death, with the intent to injure another by releasing the substance, is guilty of a Class 4 felony.

An "infectious biological substance" includes any bacteria, virus, fungi, protozoa, or rickettsiae capable of causing death.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state correctional facilities. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is \$0.