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## **HOUSE BILL NO. 486**

Offered January 18, 1996

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.5, relating to crime victims' rights.

Patrons—Mims, Albo, Cantor, Davies, Forbes, Howell, McClure and Weatherholtz; Senator: Earley

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1.1 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.5 as follows:

§ 19.2-11.5. Crime victim's right to consultation with attorney for the Commonwealth.

In each case when an attorney for the Commonwealth has made and intends to offer a plea agreement to the court upon a felony charge, he shall consult with the known victim or victims of the felony and as a part of any such consultation shall apprise the victim of his reasons for making the plea agreement. If he is unable to consult with a victim despite a reasonable effort to do so prior to trial on the case, he may offer the plea agreement without victim consultation and without further obligation hereunder.