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HOUSE BILL NO. 920

Offered January 22, 1996

A BILL to amend and reenact § 55-248.13:2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

Patron—Robinson

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 55-248.13:2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 55-248.13:2. Access of tenant to video and communications facilities.

No landlord shall demand or accept payment of any fee, charge or other thing of value from any provider of any wired or wireless video or communications services including, but not limited to, cable television service, satellite master antenna television service, direct broadcast satellite television service, subscription television service of any other television programming system, multipoint microwave distribution video service, video dialtone service, in exchange for giving the tenants of such landlord access to any such service; and no landlord shall demand or accept any such payment from any tenants in exchange therefor unless the landlord is itself the provider of the service. Nor shall any landlord discriminate in rental charges between tenants who receive any such service and those who do not. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit a landlord from requiring that the provider of such service and the tenant bear the entire cost of the installation, operation or removal of the facilities incident thereto, or prohibit a landlord from demanding or accepting reasonable indemnity or security for any damages caused by such installation, operation or removal.