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Patrons—Rust; Senators: Barry and Woods

**HOUSE BILL NO. 2441** 

Offered January 20, 1997

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 15.1 a section

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

numbered 15.1-37.3:15, relating to defacement of property; penalty.

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 15.1 a section numbered 15.1-37.3:15 as follows:

§ 15.1-37.3:15. Prohibiting willful or malicious damage or defacement to property; penalty.

A. Any county, city or town may by ordinance make unlawful the willful and malicious damage to or defacement of any building, facility, structure, or personal property, found or being on public property or the private property of another. The penalty for violation of such ordinance shall be a requirement for community service, not to exceed ten hours for each violation. The ordinance may establish a lesser number of hours of community service as the maximum penalty for violation of such ordinance.

B. Any ordinance adopted pursuant to this section shall make provisions for a designee of the locality to supervise the performance of the community service required and to report thereon to the court imposing such requirement. The ordinance shall direct that the community service, to the extent feasible, shall include the repair, restoration or replacement of any damage or defacement to property within such locality, and may include clean-up, beautification, landscaping or other appropriate community service within such locality.