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SENATE BILL NO. 1178

Offered January 20, 1997

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-128 of the Code of Virginia, relating to access to school property by law-enforcement officers.*

Patron—Hanger

Referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 18.2-128 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 18.2-128. Trespass upon church or school property.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person, without the consent of some person authorized to give such consent, to go or enter upon, in the nighttime, the premises or property of any church or upon any school property for any purpose other than to attend a meeting or service held or conducted in such church or school property.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person, whether or not a student, to enter upon or remain upon any school property in violation of (i) any direction to vacate the property by a person authorized to give such direction or (ii) any posted notice which contains such information, posted at a place where it reasonably may be seen. Each time such person enters upon or remains on the posted premises or after such direction that person refuses to vacate school property, it shall constitute a separate offense.

C. Any person violating the provisions of (i) subsection A shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and (ii) subsection B shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor, except that any person, other than a parent, who violates subsection B with the intent to abduct a student shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony.

D. For purposes of this section, "school property" includes a school bus as defined in § 46.2-100.

E. *This section shall not be construed to restrict access to or entry onto school property by law-enforcement agencies or officers in the performance of their duties or to require such agencies or officers to report to school administrators prior to such entry or access.*

INTRODUCED

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