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HOUSE BILL NO. 582

House Amendments in [] — February 17, 1998

A BILL to amend and reenact § 8.01-4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to district and circuit court rules.

Patrons—Joannou, Cranwell, McEachin, Melvin, Putney, Robinson and Tate

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 8.01-4 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 8.01-4. District courts and circuit courts may prescribe certain rules.

The district courts and circuit courts may, from time to time, prescribe *rules* for their respective districts and circuits. Such rules ~~as may be reasonably appropriate to~~ *shall be strictly limited to only those rules absolutely necessary to* promote proper order and decorum, and the ~~convenient~~ and efficient use of courthouses and clerks' offices. No rule of any such court shall be prescribed or enforced which is inconsistent with *this statute or any other* statutory provision, or the Rules of the Supreme Court, or contrary to the decided cases, or which has the effect of abridging substantive rights of persons before such Court. [*Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit a court from establishing reasonable docket management tools for hearings, motions and trials.*] Any rule of court which violates the provisions of *this section shall be invalid.*

ENGROSSED

HB582E