**HOUSE BILL NO. 659** 

Offered January 22, 1998

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.1-343.1:1, relating to meetings

of boards of visitors of state institutions of higher education under the Virginia Freedom of

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> Patrons—Diamonstein, Bloxom, Cantor, Clement, Councill, Croshaw, Reid, Rhodes and Woodrum; Senator: Wampler

Information Act.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.1-343.1:1 as follows:

§ 2.1-343.1:1. Meetings of boards of visitors of state institutions of higher education. Members of boards of visitors of state institutions of higher education may participate by video, telephone, or video and telephone at their meetings or meetings of their committees, where at least two-thirds of the membership of the board, or its committee, is physically assembled at its regular or primary location and where the meeting is duly convened with advance public notice in accordance with § 2.1-343.

Referred to Committee on General Laws

The meeting shall be conducted as otherwise required by this chapter. Any meeting conducted pursuant to this section shall not be considered an "electronic communication meeting" for purposes of § 2.1-343.1, provided the board or committee shall comply with the provisions of subsection D of § 2.1-343.1, requiring minutes, recordation and preservation of the audio or audio/visual recording of the meeting. Votes taken by those participating by telephone or video shall also be publicly recorded by name in roll-call fashion and shall be included in the minutes, which shall be approved by the board or committee in public session.