

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1999 SESSION

CHAPTER 455

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 a section numbered 18.2-152.15, relating to encryption used in criminal activity; penalty.

[H 2236]

Approved March 26, 1999

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 7.1 of Chapter 5 of Title 18.2 a section numbered 18.2-152.15 as follows:

§ 18.2-152.15. Encryption used in criminal activity.

Any person who willfully uses encryption to further any criminal activity shall be guilty of an offense which is separate and distinct from the predicate criminal activity and punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor.

"Encryption" means the enciphering of intelligible data into unintelligible form or the deciphering of unintelligible data into intelligible form.