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HOUSE BILL NO. 2144

House Amendments in [] — February 9, 1999

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-277.01:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to student suspensions and expulsions.

Patron—Puller

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-277.01:1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-277.01:1. Expulsion of students for certain drug offenses.

A. School boards shall expel from school attendance any student whom such school board has determined, in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 22.1-277, to have brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or marijuana [as defined in § 18.2-247] onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity [for the purpose of manufacturing, selling, or distributing such substance or with intent to sell, give, or distribute such substance as prohibited by § 18.2-255.2] . A school board may, however, determine, based on the facts of the particular case, that special circumstances exist and another disciplinary action is appropriate. In addition, a school board may, by regulation, authorize the division superintendent or his designee to conduct a preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. Such regulations shall ensure that, if a determination is made that another disciplinary action is appropriate, any such subsequent disciplinary action is to be taken in accordance with the procedures set forth in § 22.1-277.

B. Each school board shall revise its standards of student conduct to incorporate the requirements of this section no later than three months after the date on which this act becomes effective.