

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

992050818

HOUSE BILL NO. 2236

Offered January 21, 1999

A BILL 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.

Patrons—May, Black, Blevins, Crittenden, Darner, Dickinson, Drake, Guest, Harris, Howell, Jones, D.C., Katzen, Landes, Moran, Puller, Reid, Robinson, Rollison, Ruff, Tate and Wardrup

Referred to Committee on Science and Technology

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 transformation of data by the use of cryptography to produce unintelligible data (encrypted data) to ensure its confidentiality.

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HB2236