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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1414** 

Offered January 16, 2006

A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-1429 of the Code of Virginia, relating to violation of ordinances; penalties.

Patron—Hargrove

Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 15.2-1429 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 15.2-1429. Penalties for violation of ordinances.

Any locality may prescribe fines and other punishments civil or criminal penalties for violations of ordinances., which Except as otherwise provided by law, the attorney for the county, city, or town in which a violation of the ordinance occurred may enforce such ordinance by a civil action to recover a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 per violation; any such civil penalty shall be paid into the general fund of such county, city, or town. Criminal penalties shall be enforced by proceedings as if such violations were misdemeanors. However, no fine or term of confinement for the violation of ordinances shall exceed the penalties provided by general law for the violation of a Class 1 misdemeanor, and such penalties shall not exceed those penalties prescribed by general law for like offenses.