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HOUSE BILL NO. 1487

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled December 13, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-359 of the Code of Virginia, relating to venue for criminal sexual assault coupled with a violent felony.

Patron—Hope

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 18.2-359 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 18.2-359. Venue for criminal sexual assault or where any person transported for criminal sexual assault, attempted criminal sexual assault, or purposes of unlawful sexual intercourse, crimes against nature, and indecent liberties with children; venue for such crimes when coupled with a violent felony.

A. Any person transporting or attempting to transport through or across this Commonwealth, any person for the purposes of unlawful sexual intercourse or prostitution, or for the purpose of committing any crime specified in § 18.2-361 or § 18.2-370, or for the purposes of committing or attempting to commit criminal sexual assault under Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of this title, may be presented, indicted, tried, and convicted in any county or city in which any part of such transportation occurred.

B. Venue for the trial of any person charged with committing or attempting to commit ~~criminal any crime specified in § 18.2-361 or 18.2-370 or~~ sexual assault under Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of this title may be had in the county or city in which such crime is alleged to have occurred or in any county or city through which the victim was transported by the defendant prior to the commission of such offense.

C. Venue for the trial of any person charged with committing or attempting to commit criminal sexual assault under Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of this title against a person under 18 years of age may be had in the county or city in which such crime is alleged to have occurred or, when the county or city where the offense is alleged to have occurred cannot be determined, then in the county or city where the person under 18 years of age resided at the time of the offense.

D. Venue for the trial of any person charged with committing or attempting to commit (i) any crime specified in § 18.2-361 or 18.2-370 or criminal sexual assault under Article 7 (§ 18.2-61 et seq.) of Chapter 4 and (ii) any violent felony as defined in § 17.1-805 or any act of violence as defined in § 19.2-297.1 arising out of the same incident, occurrence, or transaction may be had in the county or city in which any such crime is alleged to have occurred or in any county or city through which the victim was transported by the defendant prior to the commission of such offense.

INTRODUCED

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