

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 9.1-184 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Center for*
3 *School Safety; antibullying training.*

4 [H 504]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 9.1-184 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 9.1-184. Virginia Center for School Safety created; duties.

9 A. From such funds as may be appropriated, the Virginia Center for School Safety (the "Center") is
10 hereby established within the Department. The Center shall:11 1. Provide training for Virginia public school personnel in school safety, *on evidence-based*
12 *antibullying tactics*, and *in* the effective identification of students who may be at risk for violent
13 behavior and in need of special services or assistance;14 2. Serve as a resource and referral center for Virginia school divisions by conducting research,
15 sponsoring workshops, and providing information regarding current school safety concerns, such as
16 conflict management and peer mediation, *bullying*, school facility design and technology, current state
17 and federal statutory and regulatory school safety requirements, and legal and constitutional issues
18 regarding school safety and individual rights;19 3. Maintain and disseminate information to local school divisions on effective school safety
20 initiatives in Virginia and across the nation;21 4. Collect, analyze, and disseminate various Virginia school safety data, including school safety audit
22 information submitted to it pursuant to § 22.1-279.8, collected by the Department;23 5. Encourage the development of partnerships between the public and private sectors to promote
24 school safety in Virginia;25 6. Provide technical assistance to Virginia school divisions in the development and implementation of
26 initiatives promoting school safety;27 7. Develop a memorandum of understanding between the ~~Commissioner~~ *Director* of the Department
28 of Criminal Justice Services and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to ensure collaboration and
29 coordination of roles and responsibilities in areas of mutual concern, such as school safety audits and
30 crime prevention; and31 8. Provide training for and certification of school security officers, as defined in § 9.1-101 and
32 consistent with § 9.1-110.33 B. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the Center and, upon request, assist the
34 Center in the performance of its duties and responsibilities.

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