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HOUSE BILL NO. 577

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 10, 2012

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 22.1-212.26 and 23-299.8 of the Code of Virginia, relating to teachers of online courses and in college partnership laboratory schools; background checks.

Patrons—Bell, Richard P., Crockett-Stark, Landes, Ramadan, Rust and Villanueva

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 22.1-212.26 and 23-299.8 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-212.26. Teachers and administrators of online courses and virtual programs.

A. Teachers who deliver instruction to students through online courses or virtual school programs shall be licensed by the Board of Education and shall be subject to the requirements of §§ 22.1-296.1 and 22.1-296.2, and 22.1-296.4 applicable to teachers employed by a local school board.

B. The administrator of a virtual school program shall hold an advanced degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education with educational and work experience in administering educational programs.

§ 23-299.8. Employment of professional, licensed personnel.

A. College partnership laboratory school personnel shall be employees of the institution of higher education establishing the school.

B. Teachers working in a college partnership laboratory school shall hold a license issued by the Board of Education or, in the case of an instructor in the higher education institution's Board-approved teacher education program, be eligible to hold a Virginia teaching license. Teachers working in a college partnership laboratory school shall be subject to the requirements of §§ 22.1-296.1 and 22.1-296.2, and 22.1-296.4 applicable to teachers employed by a local school board.

C. Professional, licensed personnel of a college partnership laboratory school shall be granted the same employment benefits given to professional, licensed personnel in public schools in accordance with the agreement between the college partnership laboratory school and the Board of Education.

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