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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1712**

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled January 8, 2013

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 15.2-965 of the Code of Virginia, relating to local commission on human rights.*

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Patrons—Plum and Scott, J.M.

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Referred to Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 15.2-965 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 15.2-965. Human rights ordinances and commissions.**

A. Any locality may enact an ordinance, not inconsistent with nor more stringent than any applicable state law, prohibiting discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodations, credit, and education on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, national origin, age, marital status, or disability.

B. The locality may enact an ordinance establishing a local commission on human rights ~~which~~ *that* shall have the powers and duties granted by the Virginia Human Rights Act (§ 2.2-3900 et seq.). *Furthermore, any locality that has established a local commission on human rights may include discrimination based on sexual orientation among those areas of discrimination the commission may investigate.*

INTRODUCED

HB1712