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**SENATE BILL NO. 1344**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 10, 2017

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 20-124.2:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to in camera interviews of child in custody or visitation proceeding; court's discretion to conduct recording or transcript.*

Patron—Surovell

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 20-124.2:1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 20-124.2:1. In camera interviews of child; recording or transcript.**

In any proceeding in a court of record to determine custody or visitation, ~~when the~~ a court conducts ~~may conduct~~ an in camera interview of a minor child whose custody or visitation is at issue with or without the presence of the parties or their counsel, a ~~record~~ in the discretion of the court. A recording or transcript of the interview shall be prepared, unless the parties otherwise agree. The ~~record~~ recording or transcript of the interview shall be made available to the parties and counsel and shall be made a part of the record in the case if such interview is conducted in a proceeding in a court of record, unless a decision is made by the court that ~~doing so~~ providing such recording or transcript or making such record or transcript a part of the record would endanger the safety of the child. The cost of creating the ~~record~~ recording or transcript shall be taxed as costs to the parties to the proceeding.

INTRODUCED

SB1344