

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-299.7, relating to the*  
3 *Department of Education; establishment of a microcredential program.*

4 [S 1419]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 23.1-299.7 as follows:**8 **§ 22.1-299.7. Microcredential program; certain STEM subjects.**

9 *A. The Department of Education may establish a microcredential program for the purpose of*  
10 *permitting any public elementary or secondary school teacher who holds a renewable or provisional*  
11 *license or any individual who participates in any alternate route to licensure program to complete*  
12 *additional coursework and earn microcredentials in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics*  
13 *(STEM) endorsement areas, including computer science, for which there is a high need for additional*  
14 *qualified teachers.*

15 *B. The Department of Education shall direct the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and*  
16 *Licensure to convene a workgroup including pertinent education stakeholders to determine how any*  
17 *microcredential awarded pursuant to any microcredential program established pursuant to subsection A*  
18 *will be used to award add-on endorsements and certifications for teachers in STEM endorsement areas,*  
19 *including computer science, for which there is a high need for additional qualified teachers.*

20 *C. Any course offered through any microcredential program established pursuant to subsection A*  
21 *shall be offered in-person or in a blended format of in-person and online instruction.*

22 *D. Any teacher who holds a renewable license and who participates, through any microcredential*  
23 *program offered pursuant to subsection A, in courses that do not contribute to an endorsement is*  
24 *eligible for professional development points toward renewal of his license for the number of in-person*  
25 *hours of coursework completed, upon providing a certificate of such participation from the course*  
26 *provider.*