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HOUSE BILL NO. 1682

Offered January 17, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 38.2-3407.10:3, relating to health benefit plans; coding for adverse childhood experiences.

Patron—Samirah

Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 38.2-3407.10:3 as follows: § 38.2-3407.10:3. Coding for adverse childhood experiences.

A. As used in this section:

"Adverse childhood experiences" or "ACEs" mean stressful or traumatic events experienced by a minor child. ACEs include a child witnessing, or being the victim of, physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, emotional neglect, domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, parental separation or divorce, and incarceration.

"Carrier," "covered person," and "health benefit plan," have the same meaning ascribed thereto in § 38.2-3407.10:1.

"Coding system" means the Physicians' Current Procedural Terminology as published by the American Medical Association; Health Care Common Procedure Coding System codes as published by the National Uniform Billing Committee; or other diagnosis related group classifications, revenue codes, or other codes required or recognized by a carrier.

B. Each carrier that offers a health benefit plan that provides coverage for screening of covered persons for adverse childhood experiences that may impact a patient's physical or mental health or the provision of health care services to such patient shall utilize a coding system that enrolls a code for such screening services.

C. The provisions of this section shall not apply to coverages issued by a Medicare Advantage plan, but shall apply to health maintenance organizations that issue coverage pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq. (Medicaid).

D. The Commission shall have no jurisdiction to adjudicate individual controversies arising out of this section.