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HOUSE BILL NO. 262

House Amendments in [] - February 5, 2020

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 19.2-11.02, relating to inquiry into immigration status; certain victims or witnesses of crime.

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Delegate Lopez

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 19.2-11.02 as follows:

§ 19.2-11.02. Prohibiting inquiry into the immigration status of certain victims or witnesses of crime.

[A.] No [~~officer or agent of any state or local~~] law-enforcement [~~agency~~ officer, as defined in § 9.1-101,] shall, in connection with the report, investigation, or prosecution of a criminal violation of state or local law, inquire into the immigration status of any person who (i) reports that he is a victim of the crime or is the parent or guardian of a minor victim of the crime or (ii) is a cooperating witness in the investigation of the crime or the parent or guardian of a minor witness to the crime.

[B. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a law-enforcement officer from inquiring into the immigration status of the parent or guardian of a minor victim if such parent or guardian has been arrested for, has been charged with, or is being investigated for a crime against the minor victim.]

ENGROSSED

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