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HOUSE BILL NO. 402

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the Joint Conference Committee

on March 5, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Keam)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-137.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public schools; lock-down drills; frequency; exemptions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-137.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 22.1-137.2. Lock-down drills.

A. In every public school there shall be a lock-down drill at least twice during the first 20 school days of each school session, in order that students and teachers may be thoroughly practiced in such drills. Every public school shall hold at least two one additional lock-down drills during the remainder drill after the first 60 days of the school session. Lock down plans and drills shall be in compliance with the Statewide Fire Prevention Code (§ 27-94 et seq.)

B. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students shall be exempt from mandatory participation in lock-down drills during the first 60 days of the school session. Local school boards shall develop policies to implement such exemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection, each pre-kindergarten and kindergarten student shall participate in each lock-down drill after the first 60 days of each school session.