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SENATE BILL NO. 499

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 7, 2020

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-254.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to specialty dockets; veterans docket.

Patrons—Reeves, Barker, Bell, Boysko, Chafin, Chase, Cosgrove, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnivant, Ebbin, Edwards, Favola, Hanger, Hashmi, Howell, Kiggans, Lewis, Locke, Lucas, Marsden, Mason, McClellan, McDougle, McPike, Morrissey, Newman, Norment, Obenshain, Peake, Petersen, Pillion, Ruff, Saslaw, Spruill, Stanley, Stuart, Suetterlein, Surovell and Vogel; Delegates: Austin, Avoli, Batten, Bloxom, Brewer, Byron, Campbell, J.L., Campbell, R.R., Cole, M.L., Collins, Cox, Coyner, Davis, Fariss, Fowler, Freitas, Head, Hodges, Kilgore, Knight, LaRock, Leftwich, McGuire, McNamara, Miyares, Morefield, Orrock, Robinson, Rush, Walker, Webert, Wilt, Wright and Wyatt

Referred to Committee on the Judiciary

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-254.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 18.2-254.2. Specialty dockets; report.

A. The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court shall develop a statewide evaluation model and conduct ongoing evaluations of the effectiveness and efficiency of all local specialty dockets established in accordance with the Rules of Supreme Court of Virginia. Each local specialty docket shall submit evaluative reports to the Office of the Executive Secretary as requested. The Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia shall submit a report of such evaluations to the General Assembly by December 1 of each year.

B. Any veterans docket authorized and established as a local specialty docket in accordance with the Rules of Supreme Court of Virginia shall be deemed a "Veterans Treatment Court Program," as that term is used under federal law or by any other entity, for the purposes of applying for, qualifying for, or receiving any federal grants, other federal money, or money from any other entity designated to assist or fund such state programs.

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.

INTRODUCED

SB499