

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

23101748D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1956

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 19.2-38.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to training standards; magistrates.*

Patrons—Runion and Williams

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 19.2-38.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 19.2-38.1. **Training standards; training prerequisite to reappointment; waiver.**

A. The Committee on District Courts shall establish minimum training and certification standards for magistrates in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be established by the Committee. Every magistrate shall comply with these standards and shall complete the minimum training standards as a prerequisite for continuing to serve as magistrate beyond the nine-month probationary period as established by § 19.2-38. The Committee on District Courts upon request may waive any portion of the minimum training standards for an individual magistrate.

B. Every magistrate shall be required to observe a law-enforcement officer as defined in § 9.1-101 who is employed by a law-enforcement agency established within the jurisdiction served by the magistrate while such law-enforcement officer is engaged in his official duties for a minimum of six hours annually. Proof of observation shall be submitted by June 30 to the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court.

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