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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 509

Offered January 11, 2023 Prefiled January 10, 2023

Proposing an amendment to Section 1 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to public schools of high quality; right to access a school-based licensed mental health professional.

Patrons—Bennett-Parker (By Request) and Simonds

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, a majority of the members elected to each house agreeing, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Virginia be, and the same hereby is, proposed and referred to the General Assembly at its first regular session held after the next general election of members of the House of Delegates for its concurrence in conformity with the provisions of Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia, namely:

Amend Section 1 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

ARTICLE VIII EDUCATION

Section 1. Public schools of high quality to be maintained.

The General Assembly shall provide for a system of free public elementary and secondary schools for all children of school age throughout the Commonwealth, and shall seek to ensure that an educational program of high quality is established and continually maintained. Each child attending public school shall have the right to access a school-based mental health professional licensed by the Commonwealth as a licensed clinical social worker or licensed professional counselor, including the right to choose a mental health professional who will not utilize applied behavioral analysis.