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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1218**

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 10, 2024

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-272.1:1, relating to public schools; guidelines and policies regarding school-connected overdoses; parental notification; response and prevention.*

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Patron—Higgins

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Referred to Committee on Education

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-272.1:1 as follows:****§ 22.1-272.1:1. Guidelines and policies regarding school-connected overdoses.**

A. The Board shall develop and distribute to each school board guidelines on policies and procedures relating to school-connected overdose response and prevention. The guidelines shall include:

1. Guidance and model language for the development and implementation of a policy requiring each school board to provide within 24 hours of any school-connected overdose notification to the parent of each student within the local school division, including criteria for ensuring sensitivity to the privacy interests of affected individuals in issuing such notification;

2. School-connected overdose response and prevention plans and strategies, including model action plans for collaboration between schools boards and state law enforcement in responding to school-connected overdoses, implementing school-connected overdose prevention strategies, and developing and providing educational programs for students on overdose awareness and prevention; and

3. Information for parents relating to educational resources and programs for students relating to overdose awareness and prevention, including programs aimed at helping students develop decision-making skills and understanding relevant law relating to substance abuse, as well as the "One Pill Can Kill" campaign and the Virginia Rules education program.

B. Each school board shall notify the parent of each student in the local school division of any school-connected overdose within 24 hours of the overdose occurring. Such notification may be provided through telephone, email, or other methods of communication, provided that such method of notification is consistent with the guidance and criteria developed by the Board pursuant to subdivision A 1.

**2. That each school board shall fully implement the provisions of this act, consistent with the guidelines developed by the Board of Education pursuant to subsection A of § 22.1-272.1:1 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, by the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year.**

INTRODUCED

HB1218