## 2024 SESSION

## SENATE SUBSTITUTE

|           | 24108023D   |
|-----------|---|
| 1         | HOUSE BILL NO. 426  |
| 2         | AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE   |
| 3         | (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health   |
| 4         | on February 29, 2024)   |
| 5         | (Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Cole)  |
| 6         | A BILL to direct the Board of Counseling to recognize the National Counselor Examination as a valid     |
| 7         | examination for licensure as a professional counselor in the Commonwealth of Virginia.                  |
| 8         | Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:  |
| 9         | 1. § 1. That the Board of Counseling (the Board) shall recognize the National Counselor Examination     |
| 10        | (NCE) administered by the National Board for Certified Counselors as a valid examination to meet the    |
| 11        | qualifications for licensure as a professional counselor in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Board     |
| <b>12</b> | shall incorporate the NCE into its licensure regulations and procedures, provided that such recognition |
| 13        | does not conflict with the requirements set forth in any interstate compacts or agreements to which the |
| 14        | Commonwealth is a party.  |
|           |   |