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HOUSE BILL NO. 85

Offered January 10, 2024 Prefiled December 28, 2023

A BILL to amend and reenact § 45.2-1105 of the Code of Virginia, relating to mineral mining and processing; use of cyanide or a cyanide compound prohibited.

Patrons—Simonds, Clark, Gardner, Green, Henson, Laufer, Lopez, Maldonado, Martinez, Rasoul, Reid, Shin and Simon

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 45.2-1105 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows: § 45,2-1105. Prohibited acts by miners or other persons; miners to comply with law.

A. No miner or other person shall (i) knowingly damage any shaft, lamp, instrument, air course, or brattice or obstruct any airway; (ii) carry in a mine any intoxicating liquors or controlled drugs without the prescription of a licensed physician; (iii) disturb any part of the machinery or appliances in a mine; (iv) open a door used for directing ventilation and fail to close it again; (v) enter any part of a mine against caution or a warning sign or barricade; (vi) use cyanide or a cyanide compound in any mineral mining or processing operation; or (vi) (vii) disobey any order issued pursuant to the provisions of the

B. Each miner at any mine shall comply fully with the provisions of the Act and other mining laws of the Commonwealth, including regulations adopted by the Department, that pertain to his duties.