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HOUSE BILL NO. 2492

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 30 a section numbered 30-19.1:5, relating to statement of impact of legislation on families.

Patrons—McClure, Katzen, Newman, O'Brien, Wagner and Wilkins

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 30 a section numbered 30-19.1:5, as follows:

§ 30-19.1:5. Statement of impact of legislation on families.

The Governor by executive order shall designate a state agency which shall be responsible for preparing, for each bill introduced, a statement of the impact of the bill on families. The statement shall comment on the extent to which the proposed legislation would tend to promote or hinder the ability of families to maintain their marriages, raise their children, and promote those family values which each family deems important. The executive order designating the responsible state agency shall include procedures by which relevant state agencies may comment on the bill, and all state agencies as requested shall cooperate with the responsible state agency in preparing the impact statement. Copies of each impact statement shall be filed with the Clerk of the House of Delegates, the Clerk of the Senate, and such other officials and agencies as the Governor may designate in his executive order. Statements shall be completed and filed prior to the time the bill is placed on its second calendar reading in the house of introduction, or as soon thereafter as possible, provided that the failure to file a report before second reading shall not be grounds for delaying legislative consideration of the bill. The failure to file a report, or to file a report in a timely fashion, shall not affect the validity of any action taken by the General Assembly in its consideration of the bill.