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HOUSE BILL NO. 1026

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 3 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 24.1, relating to Superintendent of Public Instruction; establishment of the Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety, and Media Literacy Advisory Council.*

Patron—Guzman

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-24.1 as follows:

§ 22.1-24.1. Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety, and Media Literacy Advisory Council.

A. The Superintendent shall establish and appoint members to the Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety, and Media Literacy Advisory Council (the Council) for the purpose of advancing the goal of safe, ethical, and responsible use of media and technology by students and teachers in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth.

B. The membership of the Council shall include at least one (i) teacher; (ii) librarian; (iii) representative of a parent-teacher organization who is a parent of a school-age child; (iv) school administrator; and (v) individual with expertise in digital citizenship, Internet safety, and media literacy, and such other individuals as the Superintendent deems appropriate, provided that the membership of the Council shall not exceed 12.

C. The Council shall:

1. Develop and recommend to the Board for adoption, after study and consideration of a variety of sources and perspectives, a model policy for local school boards in the Commonwealth that would enable such school boards to better support the digital citizenship, Internet safety, and media literacy of all students and teachers in the local school division;

2. Develop and recommend to the Board for adoption model instructional practices for the safe, ethical, and responsible use of media and technology by students and teachers in public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth; and

3. Design and post on the Department's website a page with links to successful instructional practices, curricula, and other teacher resources used in school divisions within and outside of the Commonwealth for the safe, ethical, and responsible use of media and technology by students and teachers.

2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2024.

3. That the Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety, and Media Literacy Advisory Council established by this act shall submit a report of its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than October 31, 2023.

INTRODUCED

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