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**HOUSE BILL NO. 657**

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the House Committee on Commerce and Energy)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Wampler)

House Amendments in [ ] — February 8, 2022

*A BILL to direct the Department of Energy to identify the volume and number of waste coal piles.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

*1. § 1. The Department of Energy (the Department), in cooperation with the public institutions of higher education serving the coalfield region of the Commonwealth, shall identify the approximate volume and number of waste coal piles present in the coalfield region of the Commonwealth and options for cleaning up such waste coal piles, including the use of waste coal in generation of electricity [ ÷ . ] The Department shall also collaborate with other states in which waste coal piles are located that are members of the Appalachian Regional Commission to identify best practices for cleaning up waste coal piles. The Department shall report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, House Committee on Commerce and Energy, and House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources by December 1, 2022. For purposes of this act, "waste coal" means usable material that is a byproduct of previous coal processing operations.*

ENGROSSED

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