

2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

22100982D

HOUSE BILL NO. 844

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-271.9, relating to high school interscholastic athletic and academic competition; prevention of hate speech and ethnically or racially insensitive expressions.*

Patron—Lopez

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 22.1-271.9 as follows:

§ 22.1-271.9. *High school interscholastic athletic and academic competition; prevention of hate speech and ethnically or racially insensitive expressions.*

A. With such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, the organization governing high school athletics and academic activities for public and approved nonboarding nonpublic high schools (the organization) shall develop (i) rules and standards for the prevention of inequities involving the use of hate speech or ethnically or racially insensitive expressions during athletic and academic competitions sponsored by the organization's member schools, (ii) procedures for the enforcement of and penalties for the violation of such rules and standards, and (iii) training materials on such rules and standards.

B. Each member school of the organization shall abide by and implement the rules, standards, procedures, and penalties adopted by the organization pursuant to subsection A and shall ensure that each student who will participate in high school interscholastic athletic or academic competition, the parent of each such student, and each individual, whether paid or unpaid, who coaches a team that will participate in high school interscholastic athletic or academic competition receives and reviews the training materials developed by the organization pursuant to subsection A.

C. The organization shall make part of the process to become a registered official in good standing for any association offering services to the organization an education and training requirement that is consistent with the training materials developed by the organization pursuant to subsection A.

2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on January 1, 2023.

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