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HOUSE BILL NO. 946

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-17.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Board of Education; local school boards; public notice and comment regarding certain materials.

Patron—Wampler

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 22.1-17.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 22.1-17.5. Public notice and comment regarding certain materials.**

A. In order to provide appropriate opportunity for input from the general public, parents, teachers, and local school boards, the Board of Education shall solicit public comment prior to revising or, adopting, or approving any Standards of Learning resource guides and lists guide or curriculum framework, list of recommended textbooks in any Standards of Learning academic subject, textbook, instructional aid or material, or required or recommended reading list. ~~Thirty~~ At least 30 days prior to soliciting public comment, the Board shall publish notice of its intended action. Interested parties shall be ~~given~~ provided reasonable opportunity to be heard and present information prior to final action of the Board.

The Board shall make such ~~resource guides materials~~ available for public inspection at least ~~thirty~~ 30 days prior to final ~~adoption or revision, adoption, or approval~~, as the case may be.

B. The Board shall establish minimum standards for local school boards to provide appropriate opportunity for input from the general public, parents, and teachers by soliciting public comment prior to revising, adopting, or approving any curriculum, textbook, instructional aid or material, or required or recommended reading list. Each local school board shall comply with such minimum standards, which shall require the local school board to:

1. Publish notice of its intended action at least 30 days prior to soliciting public comment;
2. Provide reasonable opportunity for interested parties to be heard and present information prior to final action of the local school board; and
3. Make the relevant materials available for public inspection at least 30 days prior to final revision, adoption, or approval, as the case may be.

INTRODUCED

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