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SENATE BILL NO. 458

Offered January 12, 2022 Prefiled January 11, 2022

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 15.2-1413.1, 22.1-6.2, 23.1-801.1, and 40.1-27.5, relating to employers; institutions of higher education; localities; public schools; face coverings.

Patron—Chase

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

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30 31 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 15.2-1413.1, 22.1-6.2, 23.1-801.1, and 40.1-27.5 as follows:

§ 15.2-1413.1. Face covering; policy, rule, or order.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, no locality shall adopt, implement, or enforce any policy, rule, or order related to COVID-19 that requires citizens to wear a face covering.

§ 22.1-6.2. Face covering; policy, rule, or order.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, no school board, division superintendent, or school principal, or private school, shall adopt, implement, or enforce any policy, rule, or order related to COVID-19 that requires students, employees, or school visitors to wear a face covering.

§ 23.1-801.1. Face covering; policy, rule, or order.

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, no public institution of institution of higher education and no private institution of higher education shall adopt, implement, or enforce any policy, rule, or order related to COVID-19 that requires students, employees, or visitors to wear a face covering.

§ 40.1-27.5. Face covering; policy, rule, or order.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, general or special, no employer shall adopt, implement, or enforce any policy, rule, or order related to COVID-19 that requires employees or visitors to wear a face covering.