

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 1673

2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3 (Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice

4 on _____)

5 (Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Bell)

6 A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-51.6 of the Code of Virginia, relating to suffocation by blocking or
7 obstructing the airway of another; penalty.

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That § 18.2-51.6 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**10 **§ 18.2-51.6. Strangulation or suffocation of another; penalty.**

11 A. Any person who, without consent, impedes the blood circulation or respiration of another
12 person by knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully applying pressure to the neck of such person resulting
13 in the wounding or bodily injury of such person is guilty of strangulation, a Class 6 felony.

14 B. Any person who, without consent, impedes the blood circulation or respiration of another person
15 by knowingly, intentionally, and unlawfully blocking or obstructing the airway of such person is guilty of
16 suffocation, a Class 6 felony.

17 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
18 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**
19 **appropriation is _____ for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities;**
20 **therefore, Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2022, Special Session I, requires the Virginia**
21 **Criminal Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-**
22 **19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is _____ for**
23 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

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