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SENATE BILL NO. 431  
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health  
on February 3, 2022)  
(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Dunnavant)

A BILL to direct the Department of Education to recommend as best practice the shortest duration of isolation and quarantine possible for students and employees who are exposed to COVID-19 and to develop and recommend to schools test-to-stay guidelines to minimize time away from school for students and employees who are exposed to COVID-19.

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

1. § 1. That the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Health, shall (i) recommend options for isolation and quarantine, considering all recommendations and medical evidence that dictates best practices, for students and employees at public schools who contract or are exposed to COVID-19 and (ii) develop test-to-stay guidelines for such schools and recommend such guidelines for use as an alternative to quarantine for such students and employees who are exposed to COVID-19. All guidelines established pursuant to this act shall be immediately distributed to local school boards and shall reflect the most updated recommendations, considering all recommendations and medical evidence that dictates best practices, to limit the amount of time out of the classroom, including options for no quarantine, as recommended for asymptomatic individuals who have been fully vaccinated within six months or have a boosted vaccination status or have had COVID-19 within the last six months.

**2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.**

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