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HOUSE BILL NO. 1043

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Tran)

A BILL to direct the Department of Education to make recommendations on background check and training requirements for coaches, staff members, employees, and volunteers of youth sports leagues.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Department of Education (the Department) shall make recommendations regarding appropriate background check and training requirements for coaches, staff members, employees, and other volunteers of competitive sports leagues in which persons under the age of 18 participate. The Department shall (i) determine whether such persons should be subject to a background check and, if so, the components of such background check and applicable barrier crimes; (ii) determine minimal training requirements such persons should satisfy annually regarding evidence-based child abuse prevention and response; and (iii) identify appropriate methods for providing notice to such persons and parents of children participating in such sports leagues of the duty of all coaches, directors, and persons 18 years of age or older employed by or volunteering with the sports league to report suspected child abuse or neglect. The Department shall consult with child sexual assault victims advocates and youth competitive sports leagues in making its recommendations. The Department shall submit to the Governor and General Assembly a report of its recommendations by November 1, 2022. The report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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