1   SENATE BILL NO. 656

2   AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3   (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health

4   on February 3, 2022)

5   (Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Dunnavant)

6   A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-16.8, relating to the Department

7   of Education; sexually explicit instructional material.

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

9   **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-16.8 as follows:**

10   **§ 22.1-16.8. Sexually explicit instructional material; parental notification.**

11   A. The Department shall develop and make available to each school board model policies for

12   ensuring parental notification of any instructional material that includes sexually explicit content and

13   include information, guidance, procedures, and standards relating to:

14   1. Ensuring parental notification as defined by the Board;

15   2. Directly identifying the specific instructional material and sexually explicit subjects; and

16   3. Permitting the parent of any student to review instructional material that includes sexually

17   explicit content and provide, as an alternative, nonexplicit instructional material and related academic

18   activities to any student whose parent so requests.

19   B. Each school board shall adopt policies that are consistent with but may be more comprehensive

20   than the model policies developed by the Department of Education pursuant to subsection A.

21   **2. That the Department of Education shall develop and make available to each school board model**

22   **policies pursuant to subsection A of § 22.1-16.8 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, no**

23   **later than July 31, 2022.**

24   **3. That each school board shall adopt policies pursuant to subsection B of § 22.1-16.8 of the Code of**

25   **Virginia, as created by this act, no later than January 1, 2023.**

26   **4. That the provisions of this act shall not be construed as requiring or providing for the censoring**

27   **of books in public elementary and secondary schools.**

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