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SENATE BILL NO. 43

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Favola)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 8.1 of Title 51.5 a section numbered 51.5-39.14, relating to persons with disabilities; disAbility Law Center of Virginia; helpline program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 8.1 of Title 51.5 a section numbered 51.5-39.14 as follows:

§ 51.5-39.14. Helpline program for persons with disabilities.

A. There shall be a helpline program for persons with disabilities created within the disAbility Law Center of Virginia and established pursuant to subsection A of § 51.5-39.13. Such program may receive and respond to questions regarding state-operated programs that provide services to persons with disabilities. The operation of such program shall be contingent on the receipt of adequate state funding.

B. The disAbility Law Center of Virginia established pursuant to § 51.5-39.13 shall publicize the procedures for contacting the helpline program created by subsection A and shall establish, maintain, and publicize a toll-free phone number and web-based portal for receiving questions.

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