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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 2731**

2 Offered January 17, 2025

3 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-212.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virtual Virginia; availability*  
4 *to every public middle school in the Commonwealth.*

5 Patron—Higgins

6 Referred to Committee on Education

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**8 **1. That § 22.1-212.2 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**  
9 **§ 22.1-212.2. Virtual Virginia.**10 From such funds as are appropriated, the Department of Education shall establish a statewide electronic  
11 classroom to be known as the Virtual Virginia Program. Virtual Virginia shall be made available to every  
12 public *middle school and public high school in Virginia the Commonwealth.*13 The Department may utilize the services of the Commonwealth's educational television stations and other  
14 providers, as well as any other appropriate technology for the purposes of implementing Virtual Virginia.15 The services of this program shall be limited to educational purposes. Educational purposes shall include,  
16 but not be limited to, instruction in subject areas that are not available in all schools and in-service training  
17 for instructional, administrative and support personnel.18 The Department may contract with one or more local school boards that have created online courses to  
19 make one or more such courses available to other school divisions through the Virtual Virginia Program. The  
20 Department shall approve all courses offered through Virtual Virginia, including those made available by  
21 local school boards to other school divisions. A school board that makes one or more of its online courses  
22 available to other school divisions through Virtual Virginia (i) shall not be considered a multidivision online  
23 provider pursuant to § 22.1-212.23 and (ii) may charge a per-course or per-student fee to school divisions to  
24 defray the costs of developing the course and providing course instruction using teachers employed by the  
25 offering school board. The Department shall approve any such fee schedule before a school board offers any  
26 such online courses through Virtual Virginia.27 The Department shall establish the Virtual Learning Advisory Committee, which shall consist of one  
28 superintendent or his designee from each of the eight superintendent's regions, the Superintendent of Public  
29 Instruction or his designee, and such other members as the Department deems appropriate, not to exceed  
30 three additional members. The contractor that manages Virtual Virginia shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio  
31 member. The Committee shall advise the Department on (i) online courses, in-service training, and digital  
32 instructional resources that school divisions need to meet the Commonwealth's graduation requirements and  
33 (ii) strategic planning to expand blended and online learning opportunities in *Virginia's the Commonwealth's*  
34 public schools, including cost-effective access to high-need and low-demand courses, training, content, and  
35 digital resources.

INTRODUCED

HB2731