

2025 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS  
INTRODUCED

25105276D

HOUSE BILL NO. 2783

Offered January 17, 2025

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-423.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to placing swastika on certain property with intent to intimidate; penalty.

Patrons—Simon, Helmer, Anthony, Askew, Bennett-Parker, Callsen, Clark, Cohen, Cousins, Feggans, Gardner, Glass, Henson, Lopez, Martinez, Price, Rasoul, Reaser, Shin, Thomas and Tran

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-423.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-423.1. Placing swastika on certain property with intent to intimidate; penalty; prima facie evidence of intent.

A. It shall be is unlawful for any person or persons, with the intent of intimidating another person or group of persons, to place or cause to be placed a swastika on (i) any church, synagogue, or other building or place used for religious worship; ~~or on~~; (ii) any school, educational facility, or community center owned or operated by a church or religious body; or (iii) the private property of another without permission.

B. It is unlawful for any person or persons, with the intent of intimidating another person or group of persons, to place or cause to be placed a swastika on a highway or other public place in a manner having a direct tendency to place another person in reasonable fear or apprehension of death or bodily injury.

C. A violation of this section shall be is punishable as a Class 6 felony.

D. For the purposes of this section, any such placing of a swastika shall be prima facie evidence of an intent to intimidate another person or group of persons.

2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities; therefore, Chapter 2 of the Acts of Assembly of 2024, Special Session I, requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

INTRODUCED

HB2783