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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1769**

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health  
on February 13, 2025)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Delegates Martinez and Orrock [HB 1788])

A *BILL to require the Chronic Absenteeism Task Force to examine chronic student absenteeism and its effects on local school divisions and school accountability; report.*

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

**1. § 1.** *The Chronic Absenteeism Task Force convened by the Department of Education, in consultation with such interested stakeholders as it deems appropriate, shall (i) examine chronic student absenteeism and its effects on local school divisions, with a particular focus on the intersection between chronic student absenteeism and the analysis of readiness for the purpose of school accountability under the School Performance and Support Network, and (ii) make recommendations to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of amending 8VAC20-110-130 of the Virginia Administrative Code or any other relevant Board of Education regulation to exclude certain student absences from the calculation of chronic student absenteeism to balance the importance of student attendance with the need for administrative flexibility for local school divisions and flexibility for families based on unique or unforeseen circumstances.*

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

HB1769S1