

26104005D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 894**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-279.6:1, relating to private
5 elementary and secondary schools; student codes of conduct; policies relating to bullying and
6 cyberbullying prevention and parental notification; requirements.
7

8 Patron—Sullivan

9 Committee Referral Pending
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11 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

12 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-279.6:1 as follows:

13 *§ 22.1-279.6:1. Private elementary and secondary schools; codes of student conduct; bullying
14 prevention and intervention; requirements.*15 A. Each principal, headmaster, or other chief administrator of each private elementary or secondary
16 school in the Commonwealth shall include in such school's policies for codes of student conduct procedures
17 for addressing and handling instances of bullying and cyberbullying. Such policies and procedures shall (i)
18 be consistent with applicable state, federal, and case laws; (ii) include policies and procedures relating to
19 ensuring school personnel are trained in or informed of the appropriate management of student conduct and
20 student offenses that violation school policies; and (iii) include policies designed to reduce bias and
21 harassment in the enforcement of any code of student conduct. Such policies may be developed in accordance
22 with the guidelines and model policies established by the Board pursuant to subsection A of § 22.1-279.6.23 B. Each principal, headmaster, or other chief administrator of each private elementary or secondary
24 school in the Commonwealth shall include in such school's code of student conduct policies and procedures
25 that include a prohibition against bullying. Such policies and procedures shall (i) direct the principal,
26 headmaster, or other chief administrator of the private elementary or secondary school or his designee to
27 provide written notification to the parent of any student involved in an alleged incident of bullying within 24
28 hours of learning of the allegation of bullying; (ii) include prohibitions against and procedures for
29 addressing instances of cyberbullying that occur between students enrolled in such school; (iii) provide
30 protections designed to ensure that any student who is a victim of or a witness to an instance of bullying or
31 cyberbullying is not deterred from reporting or seeking support for such instance of bullying or cyberbullying
32 by fears of retaliation, social alienation or rejection, or other negative treatment; (iv) include a list of support
33 services and resources available through each such school to any student who is a victim of bullying or
34 cyberbullying relating to reporting and seeking support after experiencing an instance of bullying or
35 cyberbullying, including mental health support services and any information necessary to access any such
36 support services and resources; and (v) include prohibitions against hazing, as that term is defined in
37 § 18.2-56.

INTRODUCED

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