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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1103**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 14, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-251.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to manufacturing, selling, giving,*
5 *distributing, or possessing medetomidine; penalties.*

6 Patron—Hodges

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That § 18.2-251.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**10 **§ 18.2-251.5. Manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, or possessing medetomidine or xylazine; penalties.**11 A. Any person who knowingly manufactures, sells, gives, distributes, or possesses with the intent to
12 manufacture, sell, give, or distribute the substance *medetomidine or xylazine*, when intended for human
13 consumption, is guilty of a Class 5 felony.14 B. Any person who knowingly possesses the substance *medetomidine or xylazine*, when intended for
15 human consumption, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.16 C. Notwithstanding subsections A and B, it shall not be an offense to (i) manufacture *medetomidine or*
17 *xylazine* for legitimate veterinary use; (ii) distribute or sell *medetomidine or xylazine* for authorized
18 veterinary use; (iii) possess, administer, prescribe, or dispense *medetomidine or xylazine* in good faith for use
19 by animals within the course of legitimate veterinary practice; or (iv) possess or administer *medetomidine or*
20 *xylazine* pursuant to a valid prescription from a licensed veterinarian.21 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
22 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**
23 **appropriation cannot be determined for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities;**
24 **therefore, Chapter 725 of the Acts of Assembly of 2025 requires the Virginia Criminal Sentencing**
25 **Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of**
26 **Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation cannot be determined for periods of**
27 **commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

INTRODUCED

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