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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 1153**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 14, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-211.1 of the Code of Virginia and to repeal the second enactment of*  
5 *Chapter 299 and the second enactment of Chapter 357 of the Acts of Assembly of 2024, relating to the*  
6 *Community Builders Pilot Program; name change; sunset repeal; statewide demonstration model site.*

7 Patrons—Rasoul; Senator: Aird

8 Referred to Committee on Appropriations

9 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**10 **1. That § 22.1-211.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**  
11 **§ 22.1-211.1. Community Builders Program established; report.**12 A. The Community Builders Pilot Program (the Program) is established for the purpose of reducing youth  
13 involvement in behaviors that lead to gun violence and increasing community engagement among public  
14 school students by providing students enrolled in Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public  
15 Schools opportunities during the school year after regular school hours and during the summer months for  
16 community engagement, workforce development, postsecondary education exploration, and social-emotional  
17 education and development.18 B. The Program shall have after-school sessions, to be offered during the school year after regular school  
19 hours, and one summer session, to be offered during the summer months when school is not in session. The  
20 Program shall provide a group of up to 100 students each session, selected in accordance with subdivision C  
21 1, community, workforce, and education building opportunities, including opportunities for:22 1. Workforce development and professional readiness, including career and technical education  
23 exploration and opportunities for soft-skill development;  
24 2. Exploring opportunities available in postsecondary education;  
25 3. Social-emotional development and instruction on the role and importance of restorative justice in the  
26 community; and  
27 4. Family engagement and empowerment.28 C. The school boards of Roanoke City Public Schools and Petersburg City Public Schools shall be  
29 responsible for the administration of the Program. In administering the Program, the school boards may  
30 collaborate with such other entities as they deem appropriate. In administering the Program, the school boards  
31 shall:32 1. Establish and administer an application and referral process by which students who are entering eighth  
33 grade can apply or be referred for participation in the Program, including students who may be referred by a  
34 teacher for compulsory participation;35 2. Develop and administer an application and hiring process for Program staff, including a Program  
36 coordinator and professional staff;37 3. Develop and implement a Program curriculum and itinerary for the after-school sessions of the Program  
38 to be offered during the school year after regular school hours and for the summer session of the Program to  
39 be offered during the summer months; and40 4. Collect data and report to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the House  
41 Committee on Education by November 1 each year on the progress of the Program, including: (i) the number  
42 of students participating in the Program as a whole and disaggregated by (a) the number of students  
43 participating during the after-school session of the Program and the summer session of the Program and (b)  
44 the number of participating students who are enrolled in Roanoke City Public Schools and the number of  
45 participating students enrolled in Petersburg City Public Schools; (ii) data relating to the progress of  
46 participating students, including a comparison of pre-participation and post-participation absenteeism rates,  
47 disciplinary incidents, and academic performance; and (iii) the number and rate of reported incidents of gun  
48 violence involving participants in the Program, in the City of Roanoke as a whole, and in the City of  
49 Petersburg as a whole in comparison to previous years.50 *D. With such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purpose pursuant to the*  
51 *general appropriation act, Roanoke City Public Schools shall serve as the statewide demonstration model*  
52 *site for the Program for the purpose of hosting interested representatives of other school divisions to observe*  
53 *the Program and receive training and materials from Roanoke City Public Schools in order to facilitate the*  
54 *replication of the Program in such other school divisions.*55 **2. That the second enactment of Chapter 299 and the second enactment of Chapter 357 of the Acts of**  
56 **Assembly of 2024 are repealed.**

INTRODUCED

HB1153