

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2003 SESSION

CHAPTER 602

An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-2506.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to health practitioner contact information for a public health emergency; emergency.

[H 2182]

Approved March 18, 2003

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-2506.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-2506.1. Submission of required information.

A. The Department is authorized to require individuals applying for initial licensure and individuals who are licensed to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, or to practice as a physician assistant, nurse practitioner or dental hygienist, to provide information in addition to that which is required to determine the individual's qualifications to be licensed. Such additional information shall identify the individual's specialty and subspecialty; credentials and certifications issued by professional associations, institutions and boards; and locations of practice and number of hours spent practicing at each practice location. Such information shall be collected and maintained by the Department for manpower planning purposes in cooperation with agencies and institutions of the Commonwealth and shall be released by the Department only in the aggregate without reference to any licensee's name or other individual identifying particulars. Prior to collecting any information described in this section from individual licensees, the Department shall first attempt to obtain from other sources information sufficient for manpower planning purposes.

B. *For the purpose of expediting the dissemination of information about a public health emergency, the Department is authorized to require certain licensed, certified or registered persons to report any email address, telephone number and facsimile number that may be used to contact such person in the event of a public health emergency. Such email addresses, telephone numbers and facsimile numbers shall not be published, released or made available for any other purpose. The Director, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department of Emergency Management, shall adopt regulations that identify those licensed, certified or registered persons to which the requirement to report shall apply and the procedures for reporting.*

2. That the Director of the Department of Health Professions, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department of Emergency Management, shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.

3. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.