## **2004 SESSION**

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## **SENATE BILL NO. 136**

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor

on January 26, 2004)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Lambert)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-127.1:03 and 40.1-8 of the Code of Virginia, relating to disclosure of certain protected health information to the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry or his designee.

## 9 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 32.1-127.1:03 and 40.1-8 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows: 10 § 32.1-127.1:03. Patient health records privacy. 11

A. There is hereby recognized a patient's right of privacy in the content of a patient's medical record. 12 13 Patient records are the property of the provider maintaining them, and, except when permitted by this section or by another provision of state or federal law, no provider, or other person working in a health 14 15 care setting, may disclose the records of a patient.

16 Patient records shall not be removed from the premises where they are maintained without the 17 approval of the provider, except in accordance with a court order or subpoend consistent with § 8.01-413 C or with this section or in accordance with the regulations relating to change of ownership of patient 18 records promulgated by a health regulatory board established in Title 54.1. 19

20 No person to whom disclosure of patient records was made by a patient or a provider shall redisclose 21 or otherwise reveal the records of a patient, beyond the purpose for which such disclosure was made, 22 without first obtaining the patient's specific consent to such redisclosure. This redisclosure prohibition 23 shall not, however, prevent (i) any provider who receives records from another provider from making 24 subsequent disclosures as permitted under this section and the federal Department of Health and Human 25 Services regulations relating to the electronic transmission of data and patient privacy promulgated as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq.) 26 27 or (ii) any provider from furnishing records and aggregate or other data, from which patient-identifying 28 prescription information has been removed, encoded or encrypted, to qualified researchers, including, but 29 not limited to, pharmaceutical manufacturers and their agents or contractors, for purposes of clinical, 30 pharmaco-epidemiological, pharmaco-economic, or other health services research.

B. As used in this section:

"Agent" means a person who has been appointed as a patient's agent under a power of attorney for health care or an advance directive under the Health Care Decisions Act (§ 54.1-2981 et seq.).

34 "Certification" means a written representation that is delivered by hand, by first-class mail, by 35 overnight delivery service, or by facsimile if the sender obtains a facsimile-machine-generated confirmation reflecting that all facsimile pages were successfully transmitted. 36 37

"Guardian" means a court-appointed guardian of the person.

"Health services" includes, but is not limited to, examination, diagnosis, evaluation, treatment, pharmaceuticals, aftercare, habilitation or rehabilitation and mental health therapy of any kind.

"Parent" means a biological, adoptive or foster parent.

"Patient" means a person who is receiving or has received health services from a provider.

42 "Patient-identifying prescription information" means all prescriptions, drug orders or any other 43 prescription information that specifically identifies an individual patient.

"Provider" shall have the same meaning as set forth in the definition of "health care provider" in 44 § 8.01-581.1, except that state-operated facilities shall also be considered providers for the purposes of 45 this section. Provider shall also include all persons who are licensed, certified, registered or permitted by 46 47 any of the health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions, except persons regulated by the Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers or the Board of Veterinary Medicine. **48** 

49 "Record" means any written, printed or electronically recorded material maintained by a provider in 50 the course of providing health services to a patient concerning the patient and the services provided. 51 "Record" also includes the substance of any communication made by a patient to a provider in confidence during or in connection with the provision of health services to a patient or information 52 53 otherwise acquired by the provider about a patient in confidence and in connection with the provision of 54 health services to the patient. 55

C. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any of the following:

1. The status of and release of information governed by §§ 65.2-604 and 65.2-607 of the Virginia 56 57 Workers' Compensation Act;

2. Except where specifically provided herein, the records of minor patients; or 58

59 3. The release of juvenile records to a secure facility or a shelter care facility pursuant to SB136S1

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60 § 16.1-248.3.

61 D. Providers may disclose the records of a patient:

1. As set forth in subsection E of this section, pursuant to the written consent of the patient or in the 62 63 case of a minor patient, his custodial parent, guardian or other person authorized to consent to treatment 64 of minors pursuant to § 54.1-2969; also, in emergency cases or situations where it is impractical to 65 obtain the patient's written consent, pursuant to the patient's oral consent for a provider to discuss the 66 patient's records with a third party specified by the patient;

67 2. In compliance with a subpoena issued in accord with subsection H of this section, pursuant to court order upon good cause shown or in compliance with a subpoena issued pursuant to subsection C 68 69 of § 8.01-413;

70 3. In accord with subsection F of § 8.01-399 including, but not limited to, situations where disclosure 71 is reasonably necessary to establish or collect a fee or to defend a provider or the provider's employees 72 or staff against any accusation of wrongful conduct; also as required in the course of an investigation, 73 audit, review or proceedings regarding a provider's conduct by a duly authorized law-enforcement, 74 licensure, accreditation, or professional review entity;

4. In testimony in accordance with §§ 8.01-399 and 8.01-400.2;

5. In compliance with the provisions of  $\S$  8.01-413;

6. As required or authorized by law relating to public health activities, health oversight activities, 77 78 serious threats to health or safety, or abuse, neglect or domestic violence, relating to contagious disease, 79 public safety, and suspected child or adult abuse reporting requirements, including, but not limited to, those contained in §§ 32.1-36, 32.1-36.1, 32.1-40, 32.1-41, 32.1-127.1:04, 32.1-276.5, 32.1-283, 32.1-283.1, 37.1-98.2, 53.1-40.10, 54.1-2403.3, 54.1-2506, 54.1-2906, 54.1-2907, 54.1-2966, 80 81 54.1-2966.1, 54.1-2967, 54.1-2968, 63.2-1606 and 63.2-1509; 82

83 7. Where necessary in connection with the care of the patient, including in the implementation of a 84 hospital routine contact process;

85 8. In the normal course of business in accordance with accepted standards of practice within the health services setting; however, the maintenance, storage, and disclosure of the mass of prescription 86 87 dispensing records maintained in a pharmacy registered or permitted in Virginia shall only be 88 accomplished in compliance with §§ 54.1-3410, 54.1-3411 and 54.1-3412; 89

9. When the patient has waived his right to the privacy of the medical records;

90 10. When examination and evaluation of a patient are undertaken pursuant to judicial or 91 administrative law order, but only to the extent as required by such order;

92 11. To the guardian ad litem in the course of a guardianship proceeding of an adult patient 93 authorized under Article 1.1 (§ 37.1-134.6 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 37.1;

94 12. To the attorney appointed by the court to represent a patient in a civil commitment proceeding 95 under § 37.1-67.3;

96 13. To the attorney and/or guardian ad litem of a minor patient who represents such minor in any 97 judicial or administrative proceeding, provided that the court or administrative hearing officer has 98 entered an order granting the attorney or guardian ad litem this right and such attorney or guardian ad 99 litem presents evidence to the provider of such order;

14. With regard to the Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, a minor's records in 100 101 accord with § 9.1-156;

102 15. To an agent appointed under a patient's power of attorney or to an agent or decision maker 103 designated in a patient's advance directive for health care or for decisions on anatomical gifts and organ, 104 tissue or eye donation or to any other person consistent with the provisions of the Health Care Decisions 105 Act (§ 54.1-2981 et seq.); 106

16. To third-party payors and their agents for purposes of reimbursement;

107 17. As is necessary to support an application for receipt of health care benefits from a governmental 108 agency or as required by an authorized governmental agency reviewing such application or reviewing 109 benefits already provided or as necessary to the coordination of prevention and control of disease, 110 injury, or disability and delivery of such health care benefits pursuant to § 32.1-127.1:04;

18. Upon the sale of a medical practice as provided in § 54.1-2405; or upon a change of ownership 111 112 or closing of a pharmacy pursuant to regulations of the Board of Pharmacy;

19. In accord with § 54.1-2400.1 B, to communicate a patient's specific and immediate threat to 113 114 cause serious bodily injury or death of an identified or readily identifiable person;

115 20. To the patient, except as provided in subsections E and F of this section and subsection B of 116 § 8.01-413;

117 21. In the case of substance abuse records, when permitted by and in conformity with requirements of federal law found in 42 U.S.C. § 290dd-2 and 42 C.F.R. Part 2; 118

22. In connection with the work of any entity established as set forth in § 8.01-581.16 to evaluate the 119 120 adequacy or quality of professional services or the competency and qualifications for professional staff privileges; 121

122 23. If the records are those of a deceased or mentally incapacitated patient to the personal 123 representative or executor of the deceased patient or the legal guardian or committee of the incompetent 124 or incapacitated patient or if there is no personal representative, executor, legal guardian or committee 125 appointed, to the following persons in the following order of priority: a spouse, an adult son or 126 daughter, either parent, an adult brother or sister, or any other relative of the deceased patient in order 127 of blood relationship;

128 24. For the purpose of conducting record reviews of inpatient hospital deaths to promote
129 identification of all potential organ, eye, and tissue donors in conformance with the requirements of
130 applicable federal law and regulations, including 42 C.F.R. § 482.45, (i) to the provider's designated
131 organ procurement organization certified by the United States Health Care Financing Administration and
132 (ii) to any eye bank or tissue bank in Virginia certified by the Eye Bank Association of America or the
133 American Association of Tissue Banks;

134 25. To the Office of the Inspector General for Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance135 Abuse Services pursuant to Chapter 16 (§ 37.1-255 et seq.) of Title 37.1;

136 26. (Expires July 1, 2006) To an entity participating in the activities of a local health partnership authority established pursuant to Article 6.1 (§ 32.1-122.10:001 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 32.1, pursuant to subdivision D 1 of this section; and

139 27. To law-enforcement officials by each licensed emergency medical services agency, (i) when the patient is the victim of a crime or (ii) when the patient has been arrested and has received emergency medical services or has refused emergency medical services and the records consist of the prehospital patient care report required by § 32.1-116.1; and

143 28. To the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry or his designee by each licensed
144 emergency medical services agency when the records consist of the prehospital patient care report
145 required by § 32.1-116.1 and the patient has suffered an injury or death on a work site while
146 performing duties or tasks that are within the scope of his employment.

147 E. Requests for copies of medical records shall (i) be in writing, dated and signed by the requester; 148 (ii) identify the nature of the information requested; and (iii) include evidence of the authority of the 149 requester to receive such copies and identification of the person to whom the information is to be 150 disclosed. The provider shall accept a photocopy, facsimile, or other copy of the original signed by the requestor as if it were an original. Within 15 days of receipt of a request for copies of medical records, 151 152 the provider shall do one of the following: (i) furnish such copies to any requester authorized to receive 153 them; (ii) inform the requester if the information does not exist or cannot be found; (iii) if the provider does not maintain a record of the information, so inform the requester and provide the name and 154 155 address, if known, of the provider who maintains the record; or (iv) deny the request (a) under 156 subsection F, (b) on the grounds that the requester has not established his authority to receive such 157 records or proof of his identity, or (c) as otherwise provided by law. Procedures set forth in this section 158 shall apply only to requests for records not specifically governed by other provisions of this Code, 159 federal law or state or federal regulation.

160 F. Except as provided in subsection B of § 8.01-413, copies of a patient's records shall not be furnished to such patient or anyone authorized to act on the patient's behalf where the patient's attending 161 162 physician or the patient's clinical psychologist has made a part of the patient's record a written statement that, in his opinion, the furnishing to or review by the patient of such records would be injurious to the 163 patient's health or well-being. If any custodian of medical records denies a request for copies of records 164 165 based on such statement, the custodian shall permit examination and copying of the medical record by 166 another such physician or clinical psychologist selected by the patient, whose licensure, training and experience relative to the patient's condition are at least equivalent to that of the physician or clinical 167 168 psychologist upon whose opinion the denial is based. The person or entity denying the request shall 169 inform the patient of the patient's right to select another reviewing physician or clinical psychologist 170 under this subsection who shall make a judgment as to whether to make the record available to the 171 patient. Any record copied for review by the physician or clinical psychologist selected by the patient 172 shall be accompanied by a statement from the custodian of the record that the patient's attending 173 physician or clinical psychologist determined that the patient's review of his record would be injurious to 174 the patient's health or well-being.

175	G. A written consent to allow release of patient records may, but need not, be in the following form:
176	CONSENT TO RELEASE OF CONFIDÊNTIAL HEALTH CARE
177	INFORMATION
178	Patient Name
	Provider Name
	Person, agency or provider to whom disclosure is to be made
181	Person, agency or provider to whom disclosure is to be made
182	Information or Records to be disclosed

183 184 As the person signing this consent, I understand that I am giving my permission to the above-named provider or other named third party for disclosure of confidential health care records. I also understand 185 186 that I have the right to revoke this consent, but that my revocation is not effective until delivered in 187 writing to the person who is in possession of my records. A copy of this consent and a notation 188 concerning the persons or agencies to whom disclosure was made shall be included with my original 189 records. The person who receives the records to which this consent pertains may not redisclose them to 190 anyone else without my separate written consent unless such recipient is a provider who makes a 191 disclosure permitted by law.

This consent expires on (date) ....., 192

193 Signature of Patient.....

194 H. Pursuant to this subsection:

195 1. Unless excepted from these provisions in subdivision 9, no party to a civil, criminal or 196 administrative action or proceeding shall request the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum for another 197 party's medical records or cause a subpoena duces tecum to be issued by an attorney unless a copy of 198 the request for the subpoena or a copy of the attorney-issued subpoena is provided to the other party's 199 counsel or to the other party if pro se, simultaneously with filing the request or issuance of the 200 subpoena. No party to an action or proceeding shall request or cause the issuance of a subpoena duces 201 tecum for the medical records of a nonparty witness unless a copy of the request for the subpoena or a copy of the attorney-issued subpoena is provided to the nonparty witness simultaneously with filing the 202 203 request or issuance of the attorney-issued subpoena.

No subpoena duces tecum for medical records shall set a return date earlier than 15 days from the 204 205 date of the subpoena except by order of a court or administrative agency for good cause shown. When a 206 court or administrative agency directs that medical records be disclosed pursuant to a subpoena duces 207 tecum earlier than 15 days from the date of the subpoena, a copy of the order shall accompany the 208 subpoena.

209 Any party requesting a subpoend duces tecum for medical records or on whose behalf the subpoend 210 duces tecum is being issued shall have the duty to determine whether the patient whose records are 211 being sought is pro se or a nonparty.

In instances where medical records being subpoenaed are those of a pro se party or nonparty witness, 212 213 the party requesting or issuing the subpoena shall deliver to the pro se party or nonparty witness together with the copy of the request for subpoena, or a copy of the subpoena in the case of an 214 attorney-issued subpoena, a statement informing them of their rights and remedies. The statement shall 215 216 include the following language and the heading shall be in boldface capital letters: 217

NOTICE TO PATIENT

218 The attached document means that (insert name of party requesting or causing issuance of the 219 subpoena) has either asked the court or administrative agency to issue a subpoena or a subpoena has 220 been issued by the other party's attorney to your doctor or other health care providers (names of health care providers inserted here) requiring them to produce your medical records. Your doctor or other 221 222 health care provider is required to respond by providing a copy of your medical records. If you believe 223 your records should not be disclosed and object to their disclosure, you have the right to file a motion 224 with the clerk of the court or the administrative agency to quash the subpoena. If you elect to file a motion to quash, such motion must be filed within 15 days of the date of the request or of the 225 226 attorney-issued subpoena. You may contact the clerk's office or the administrative agency to determine 227 the requirements that must be satisfied when filing a motion to quash and you may elect to contact an attorney to represent your interest. If you elect to file a motion to quash, you must notify your doctor or 228 229 other health care provider(s) that you are filing the motion so that the provider knows to send the 230 records to the clerk of court or administrative agency in a sealed envelope or package for safekeeping 231 while your motion is decided.

232 2. Any party filing a request for a subpoena duces tecum or causing such a subpoena to be issued 233 for a patient's medical records shall include a Notice to Providers in the same part of the request in 234 which the provider is directed where and when to return the records. Such notice shall be in boldface 235 capital letters and shall include the following language: 236

NOTICE TO PROVIDERS

237 A COPY OF THIS SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO YOUR PATIENT OR YOUR PATIENT'S COUNSEL. YOU OR YOUR PATIENT HAVE THE RIGHT TO FILE A 238 MOTION TO QUASH (OBJECT TO) THE ATTACHED SUBPOENA. IF YOU ELECT TO FILE A MOTION TO QUASH, YOU MUST FILE THE MOTION WITHIN 15 DAYS OF THE DATE OF 239 240 241 THIS SUBPOENA.

242 YOU MUST NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUBPOENA UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED WRITTEN 243 CERTIFICATION FROM THE PARTY ON WHOSE BEHALF THE SUBPOENA WAS ISSUED 244 THAT THE TIME FOR FILING A MOTION TO QUASH HAS ELAPSED AND THAT:

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245 NO MOTION TO QUASH WAS FILED; OR

246 ANY MOTION TO QUASH HAS BEEN RESOLVED BY THE COURT OR THE
247 ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY AND THE DISCLOSURES SOUGHT ARE CONSISTENT WITH
248 SUCH RESOLUTION.

249 IF YOU RECEIVE NOTICE THAT YOUR PATIENT HAS FILED A MOTION TO QUASH THIS
250 SUBPOENA, OR IF YOU FILE A MOTION TO QUASH THIS SUBPOENA, YOU MUST SEND
251 THE RECORDS ONLY TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY THAT
252 ISSUED THE SUBPOENA OR IN WHICH THE ACTION IS PENDING AS SHOWN ON THE
253 SUBPOENA USING THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

PLACE THE RECORDS IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND ATTACH TO THE SEALED
ENVELOPE A COVER LETTER TO THE CLERK OF COURT OR ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY
WHICH STATES THAT CONFIDENTIAL HEALTH CARE RECORDS ARE ENCLOSED AND ARE
TO BE HELD UNDER SEAL PENDING A RULING ON THE MOTION TO QUASH THE
SUBPOENA. THE SEALED ENVELOPE AND THE COVER LETTER SHALL BE PLACED IN AN
OUTER ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE COURT OR
ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY.

3. Upon receiving a valid subpoena duces tecum for medical records, health care providers shall havethe duty to respond to the subpoena in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

4. Except to deliver to a clerk of the court or administrative agency subpoenaed medical records in a sealed envelope as set forth, health care providers shall not respond to a subpoena duces tecum for such medical records until they have received a certification as set forth in subdivisions 5 or 8 of this subsection from the party on whose behalf the subpoena duces tecum was issued.

267 If the health care provider has actual receipt of notice that a motion to quash the subpoena has been 268 filed or if the health care provider files a motion to quash the subpoena for medical records, then the 269 health care provider shall produce the records, in a securely sealed envelope, to the clerk of the court or 270 administrative agency issuing the subpoena or in whose court or administrative agency the action is 271 pending. The court or administrative agency shall place the records under seal until a determination is 272 made regarding the motion to quash. The securely sealed envelope shall only be opened on order of the judge or administrative agency. In the event the court or administrative agency grants the motion to 273 274 quash, the records shall be returned to the health care provider in the same sealed envelope in which 275 they were delivered to the court or administrative agency. In the event that a judge or administrative 276 agency orders the sealed envelope to be opened to review the records in camera, a copy of the order 277 shall accompany any records returned to the provider. The records returned to the provider shall be in a 278 securely sealed envelope.

5. If no motion to quash is filed within 15 days of the date of the request or of the attorney-issued
subpoena, the party on whose behalf the subpoena was issued shall have the duty to certify to the
subpoenaed health care provider that the time for filing a motion to quash has elapsed and that no
motion to quash was filed. Any provider receiving such certification shall have the duty to comply with
the subpoena duces tecum by returning the specified medical records by either the return date on the
subpoena or 5 days after receipt of the certification, whichever is later.

285 6. In the event that the individual whose records are being sought files a motion to quash the 286 subpoena, the court or administrative agency shall decide whether good cause has been shown by the 287 discovering party to compel disclosure of the patient's private records over the patient's objections. In 288 determining whether good cause has been shown, the court or administrative agency shall consider (i) 289 the particular purpose for which the information was collected; (ii) the degree to which the disclosure of 290 the records would embarrass, injure, or invade the privacy of the individual; (iii) the effect of the 291 disclosure on the individual's future health care; (iv) the importance of the information to the lawsuit or 292 proceeding; and (v) any other relevant factor.

293 7. Concurrent with the court or administrative agency's resolution of a motion to quash, if 294 subpoenaed medical records have been submitted by a health care provider to the court or administrative 295 agency in a sealed envelope, the court or administrative agency shall: (i) upon determining that no 296 submitted medical records should be disclosed, return all submitted medical records to the provider in a 297 sealed envelope; (ii) upon determining that all submitted medical records should be disclosed, provide 298 all the submitted medical records to the party on whose behalf the subpoena was issued; or (iii) upon 299 determining that only a portion of the submitted medical records should be disclosed, provide such 300 portion to the party on whose behalf the subpoena was issued and return the remaining medical records 301 to the provider in a sealed envelope.

8. Following the court or administrative agency's resolution of a motion to quash, the party on whose
behalf the subpoena duces tecum was issued shall have the duty to certify in writing to the subpoenaed
health care provider a statement of one of the following:

**305** a. All filed motions to quash have been resolved by the court or administrative agency and the

306 disclosures sought in the subpoena duces tecum are consistent with such resolution; and, therefore, the 307 medical records previously delivered in a sealed envelope to the clerk of the court or administrative 308 agency will not be returned to the provider;

309 b. All filed motions to quash have been resolved by the court or administrative agency and the 310 disclosures sought in the subpoena duces tecum are consistent with such resolution and that, since no 311 medical records have previously been delivered to the court or administrative agency by the provider, 312 the provider shall comply with the subpoena duces tecum by returning the medical records designated in 313 the subpoena by the return date on the subpoena or five days after receipt of certification, whichever is 314 later:

315 c. All filed motions to quash have been resolved by the court or administrative agency and the 316 disclosures sought in the subpoena duces tecum are not consistent with such resolution; therefore, no 317 medical records shall be disclosed and all medical records previously delivered in a sealed envelope to 318 the clerk of the court or administrative agency will be returned to the provider;

d. All filed motions to quash have been resolved by the court or administrative agency and the 319 320 disclosures sought in the subpoena duces tecum are not consistent with such resolution and that only 321 limited disclosure has been authorized. The certification shall state that only the portion of the records as 322 set forth in the certification, consistent with the court or administrative agency's ruling, shall be 323 disclosed. The certification shall also state that medical records that were previously delivered to the 324 court or administrative agency for which disclosure has been authorized will not be returned to the 325 provider; however, all medical records for which disclosure has not been authorized will be returned to 326 the provider; or

327 e. All filed motions to quash have been resolved by the court or administrative agency and the 328 disclosures sought in the subpoena duces tecum are not consistent with such resolution and, since no 329 medical records have previously been delivered to the court or administrative agency by the provider, 330 the provider shall return only those records specified in the certification, consistent with the court or 331 administrative agency's ruling, by the return date on the subpoena or five days after receipt of the 332 certification, whichever is later.

333 A copy of the court or administrative agency's ruling shall accompany any certification made 334 pursuant to this subdivision.

335 9. The provisions of this subsection have no application to subpoenas for medical records requested 336 under § 8.01-413, or issued by a duly authorized administrative agency conducting an investigation, 337 audit, review or proceedings regarding a provider's conduct. 338

The provisions of this subsection apply to the medical records of both minors and adults.

339 Nothing in this subsection shall have any effect on the existing authority of a court or administrative 340 agency to issue a protective order regarding medical records, including, but not limited to, ordering the 341 return of medical records to a health care provider, after the period for filing a motion to quash has 342 passed.

343 A subpoena for substance abuse records must conform to the requirements of federal law found in 42 344 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart E.

345 I. Providers may testify about the medical records of a patient in compliance with §§ 8.01-399 and 346 8.01-400.2.

§ 40.1-8. Other officers to furnish information; protected health information under certain 347 348 circumstances.

349 A. All State, county, town and city officers shall furnish the Commissioner, upon his request, such 350 statistical or other information as may be in their possession as such officers which that will assist the 351 Department in the discharge of its duties.

B. In the discharge of his duties to ensure compliance with federal law and regulation relating to the 352 353 health and safety of Virginia's workforce and prevention of work-related injuries, disabilities, and 354 deaths, each licensed emergency medical services agency shall release to the Commissioner or his 355 designee the prehospital patient care report required by § 32.1-116.1 when such records are requested 356 for a patient who has suffered an injury, disability or death resulting from an accident or illness that 357 occurred while engaged in his employment without obtaining consent or authorization for such 358 disclosure from the person who is the subject of the records. The patient's health records shall be 359 confidential. The Commissioner and any designee shall only redisclose such protected health information 360 in compliance with the regulations concerning patient privacy promulgated by the federal Department of Health and Human Services in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act 361 362 of 1996, as amended.