

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 32.1-23.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to dissemination of*
3 *Medicare pharmaceutical benefits information and certain training of senior citizen volunteers.*

4 [S 158]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 32.1-23.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 32.1-23.1. Alternative delivery of certain information; Medicare pharmaceutical benefits; training.

9 A. The Commissioner shall create links from the Virginia Department of Health's website to the
10 Virginia Department for the Aging's website and its affiliated sites pertaining to pharmaceutical
11 assistance programs and pharmaceutical discount purchasing cards. The Commissioner of the Department
12 for the Aging shall cooperate with the Commissioner of Health by ensuring that such information is
13 available on the Department for the Aging's website.

14 B. The Commissioner shall ensure that all clinical sites administered by local health departments are
15 provided with adequate information concerning the services of the Virginia Department for the Aging,
16 including, but not limited to, its toll-free telephone number and its website information on
17 pharmaceutical assistance programs and pharmaceutical discount purchasing cards.

18 C. The Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of the Department for the Aging shall
19 coordinate the dissemination of information to the public regarding any pharmaceutical discount
20 purchasing card programs while maintaining a neutral posture regarding such programs.

21 *In addition, with such funds as may be made available, the Commissioner of Health and the*
22 *Commissioner of the Department for the Aging shall disseminate information to the public relating to*
23 *recent congressional actions relating to pharmaceutical benefits to be provided under the Medicare*
24 *program and how such benefits may help senior citizens with the costs of pharmaceutical benefits.*

25 D. The Commissioner shall establish a toll-free telephone number, to be administered by the Virginia
26 Department of Health, which shall provide recorded information concerning services available from the
27 Department for the Aging, the Virginia Area Agencies on Aging, and other appropriate organizations for
28 senior citizens.

29 *E. The Commissioner of Health and the Commissioner of the Department for the Aging shall develop*
30 *a strategy, in coordination with the Virginia Area Agencies on Aging, for disseminating information to*
31 *the public concerning the availability of pharmaceutical assistance programs and for training senior*
32 *citizen volunteers to assist in completing applications for pharmaceutical assistance programs and*
33 *pharmaceutical discount purchasing cards.*

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