

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 65.2-201 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Workers' Compensation*
3 *Commission.*

4 [S 597]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 65.2-201 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 65.2-201. General duties and powers of the Commission.

9 A. It shall be the duty of the Commission to administer this title and adjudicate issues and
10 controversies relating thereto. *In all matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission, it shall have the*
11 *power of a court of record to administer oath, to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production*
12 *of documents, to punish for contempt, to appoint guardians pursuant to Title 31, and to enforce*
13 *compliance with its lawful orders and awards.* The Commission shall make rules and regulations for
14 carrying out the provisions of this title.

15 B. The Commission may appoint deputies, bailiffs, and such other personnel as it may deem
16 necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this title.

17 C. The Commission or any member thereof or any person deputized by it may for the purposes of
18 this title subpoena witnesses, administer or cause to be administered oaths, and examine or cause to be
19 examined such parts of the books and records of the parties to a proceeding as relate to questions in
20 dispute arising in instances in which the Commission has power to award compensation. This authority
21 shall extend to requests from like agencies of other states who honor similar requests from the
22 Commission.

23 D. The Commission shall publish and, upon request, furnish free of charge, such blank forms and
24 literature as it shall deem requisite to facilitate or promote the efficient administration of this title. The
25 Commission shall publish a workers' compensation guide for employees which informs an injured
26 employee of his rights under this title. If the Commission receives notice of an accident, it shall provide
27 a workers' compensation guide to the employee.

28 E. The Commission shall tabulate the accident reports received from employers in accordance with
29 § 65.2-900 and shall publish the same in the annual report of the Commission and as often as it may
30 deem advisable, in such detailed or aggregate form as it may deem best. The name of the employer or
31 employee shall not appear in such publications, and the employers' reports shall be private records of the
32 Commission and shall not be open for public inspection except for the inspection by the parties directly
33 involved, and only to the extent of such interest. These reports shall not be used as evidence against any
34 employer in any suit at law brought by any employee for the recovery of damages.