

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2005 SESSION

## CHAPTER 201

*An Act to amend and reenact § 37.1-84.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to human rights of persons with mental illness, mental retardation, or substance abuse.*

[H 2870]

Approved March 20, 2005

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 37.1-84.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 37.1-84.3. Appointments to state and local human rights committees.

The Board shall appoint a state human rights committee, which shall appoint local human rights committees to address alleged violations of consumers' human rights. One-third of the appointments made to the state or local human rights committees shall be consumers or family members of consumers, with at least two consumers who are receiving or who have received within five years of their initial appointment public or private mental health, mental retardation, or substance abuse treatment or habilitation services on each committee. *In addition, at least one appointment to the state and each local human rights committee shall be a health care provider.* Remaining appointments shall include lawyers, ~~health care providers~~, and persons with interest or knowledge or training in the mental health, mental retardation or substance abuse field. No current employee of the Department or a community services board, behavioral health authority, or local government department with a policy-advisory community services board shall serve as a member of the state human rights committee. No current employee of the Department; a community services board, behavioral health authority or local government department with a policy-advisory community services board; or any facility or program licensed or funded by the Department shall serve as a member of any local human rights committee that serves an oversight function for the employing facility, program or organization.