

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-205.1, relating to Economic*
3 *Crisis Strike Force.*

4 [H 1499]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-205.1 as follows:**8 *§ 2.2-205.1. Economic Crisis Strike Force.*

9 *A. There is hereby established the Economic Crisis Strike Force (Strike Force) for the purpose of*
10 *serving as a working group to respond as needed to economic disasters in Virginia communities by (i)*
11 *immediately providing a single point of contact for citizens in affected communities to assist with*
12 *accessing available government and private sector services and resources, (ii) assisting localities in*
13 *developing short-term and long-term strategies for addressing the economic crisis, and (iii) identifying*
14 *opportunities for workforce retraining, job creation, and new investment.*

15 *B. The Strike Force shall be chaired by the Secretary of Commerce and Trade and be deployed at*
16 *the direction of the Governor. Membership shall include high level representatives designated by the*
17 *Secretaries of Education and Health and Human Resources and by the respective heads of the following*
18 *agencies: the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Business*
19 *Assistance, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the*
20 *Department of Labor and Industry, the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of*
21 *Minority Business Enterprise, the Department of Social Services, the Virginia Community College*
22 *System, the Virginia Employment Commission, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the*
23 *Virginia Tourism Authority. The Strike Force shall also include representatives from such other agencies*
24 *as may be designated by the Governor to meet the needs of a particular affected community. In*
25 *addition, the Governor may designate such citizens as he deems appropriate to advise the Strike Force.*

26 *C. Staff support for the Strike Force shall be provided by the Office of the Governor and the*
27 *Secretary of Commerce and Trade. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall assist the Strike Force upon*
28 *request.*

29 *D. On or before December 1 of each year, the Strike Force shall report to the Governor and the*
30 *General Assembly on its activities.*

31 *E. For the purposes of this section, "economic disaster" means an employment loss of at least 5%*
32 *during the immediately preceding six-month period, the closure or downsizing of a major regional*
33 *employer in an economically distressed area, a natural disaster or act of terrorism for which the*
34 *Governor has declared a state of emergency, or other economic crisis situations, which in the opinion of*
35 *the Governor adversely affect the welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth.*

36 **2. That an emergency exists and this act shall be in force upon its passage.**

ENROLLED

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