

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-403 and 51.1-1132 of the Code of Virginia, relating to health*
 3 *insurance coverage for state law-enforcement officers receiving work-related disability benefits.*

[H 2557]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That §§ 9.1-403 and 51.1-1132 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 9.1-403. Claim for payment; costs.

9 A. Every beneficiary, disabled person or his spouse, or dependent of a deceased or disabled person
 10 shall present his claim to the chief officer, or his designee, of the appropriate division or department that
 11 last employed the deceased or disabled person on forms to be provided by the State Comptroller's office.
 12 The chief officer or his designee shall submit a request to the Superintendent of the Department of the
 13 State Police, who shall investigate and report upon the circumstances surrounding the deceased or
 14 disabled person, calling upon the additional information and services of any other appropriate agents or
 15 agencies of the Commonwealth. The Superintendent, or his designee, shall report his findings to the
 16 Comptroller within ten business days after completion of the investigation. The Department of State
 17 Police shall take action to conduct the investigation as expeditiously as possible. The Department shall
 18 be reimbursed for the cost of investigations conducted pursuant to this section from the appropriate
 19 employer that last employed the deceased or disabled employee.

20 B. *Within 10 business days of being notified by an employee, or an employee's representative, that*
 21 *such employee is permanently and totally disabled due to a work-related injury suffered in the line of*
 22 *duty, the agency or department employing the disabled person shall provide him with information about*
 23 *the continued health insurance coverage provided under this act and the process for initiating a claim.*

24 *The employer shall assist in filing a claim, unless such assistance is waived by the employee or the*
 25 *employee's representative.*

26 § 51.1-1132. Health insurance coverage during disability absences.

27 A. Participating employees enrolled in a health insurance plan established pursuant to § 2.2-2818
 28 shall continue to be covered during periods of short-term disability and shall have the option of
 29 continuing to be covered by such plan during periods of absence covered by long-term disability
 30 benefits.

31 B. The Commonwealth shall pay the employer's share of the cost of health insurance coverage under
 32 such plan for participating employees and for the families or dependents of such employees during
 33 periods the employee is receiving short-term disability benefits to the same extent as for other state
 34 employees covered by such plan.

35 C. Participating employees enrolled in such plan established pursuant to § 2.2-2818 shall have the
 36 option of continuing to be covered under such plan, and shall pay the full cost for coverage under such
 37 plan for themselves and for their families and dependents during periods the employee is receiving
 38 long-term disability benefits. *However, for an employee as defined in § 51.1-201 who is receiving*
 39 *long-term disability benefits for a work-related disability pursuant to Article 4 (§ 51.1-1119 et seq.) of*
 40 *Chapter 11, the Commonwealth shall continue to pay the employer's share of the cost of health*
 41 *insurance coverage under such plan for the participating employee and for his family and dependents*
 42 *until such time as the employee is approved for continued health insurance coverage as provided under*
 43 *Chapter 4 (§ 9.1-400 et seq.) of Title 9.1.*

44 **2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.**