

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 23 a section numbered 23-9.2:9,*  
3 *relating to violence prevention and threat assessment at each public institution of higher education in*  
4 *the Commonwealth.*

5 [S 539]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 23 a section numbered**  
9 **23-9.2:9 as follows:**10 § 23-9.2:9. *Violence prevention committee; threat assessment team.*11 *A. Each public college or university shall have in place policies and procedures for the prevention of*  
12 *violence on campus, including assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a*  
13 *threat to the safety of the campus community.*14 *B. The board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education shall*  
15 *determine a committee structure on campus of individuals charged with education and prevention of*  
16 *violence on campus. Each committee shall include representatives from student affairs, law enforcement,*  
17 *human resources, counseling services, residence life, and other constituencies as needed. Such committee*  
18 *shall also consult with legal counsel as needed. Once formed, each committee shall develop a clear*  
19 *statement of: (i) mission, (ii) membership, and (iii) leadership. Such statement shall be published and*  
20 *available to the campus community.*21 *C. Each committee shall be charged with: (i) providing guidance to students, faculty, and staff*  
22 *regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community;*  
23 *(ii) identification of members of the university community to whom threatening behavior should be*  
24 *reported; and (iii) policies and procedures for the assessment of individuals whose behavior may present*  
25 *a threat, appropriate means of intervention with such individuals, and sufficient means of action,*  
26 *including interim suspension or medical separation to resolve potential threats.*27 *D. The board of visitors or other governing body of each public institution of higher education shall*  
28 *establish a specific threat assessment team that shall include members from law enforcement, mental*  
29 *health professionals, representatives of student affairs and human resources, and, if available, college or*  
30 *university counsel. Such team shall implement the assessment, intervention and action policies set forth*  
31 *by the committee pursuant to subsection C.*32 *E. Each threat assessment team shall establish relationships or utilize existing relationships with*  
33 *local and state law enforcement agencies as well as mental health agencies to expedite assessment and*  
34 *intervention with individuals whose behavior may present a threat to safety.*  
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