

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to require a coordinated, multidisciplinary response to criminal sexual assault.*

3 [H 2400]

4 Approved

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

6 1. § 1. *The attorney for the Commonwealth in each political subdivision in the Commonwealth shall*
7 *coordinate the establishment of a multidisciplinary response to criminal sexual assault as set forth in*
8 *Article 7 (§ 18.2-61) of Chapter 4 of Title 18.2 of the Code of Virginia, and hold a meeting, at least*
9 *annually, to: (i) discuss implementation of protocols and policies for sexual assault response teams*
10 *consistent with those established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services pursuant to*
11 *§ 9.1-102.45 of the Code of Virginia; and (ii) establish and review guidelines for the community's*
12 *response, including the collection, preservation, and secure storage of evidence from Physical Evidence*
13 *Recovery Kit examinations consistent with § 19.2-165.1 of the Code of Virginia. The following persons*
14 *or their designees shall be invited to participate in the annual meeting: the attorney for the*
15 *Commonwealth; the sheriff; the director of the local sexual assault crisis center providing services in*
16 *the jurisdiction, if any; the chief of each police department in the jurisdiction, if any; a forensic nurse*
17 *examiner or other health care provider who performs Physical Evidence Recovery Kit examinations in*
18 *the jurisdiction, if any; and the director of the victim/witness program in the jurisdiction, if any.*