

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2011 SESSION

CHAPTER 503

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 8 of Chapter 2 of Title 2.2 a section numbered 2.2-224.1, relating to the Secretary of Public Safety; establishment of an information exchange program.

[H 2330]

Approved March 24, 2011

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 8 of Chapter 2 of Title 2.2 a section numbered 2.2-224.1 as follows:

§ 2.2-224.1. Secretary of Public Safety to establish information exchange program.

A. The Secretary shall establish a public safety information exchange program with those states that share a border with Canada or Mexico and are willing to participate in the exchange. The purpose of the information exchange shall be to share criminal information and, when authorized by the proper authority, intelligence information to address threats posed within the Commonwealth by (i) the organization or operation of criminal enterprises by transnational gangs; (ii) the production, transportation, distribution, or use of illegal drugs, firearms, or explosives; (iii) the activities of international or domestic terror organizations, agents, or sponsors thereof; and (iv) the criminal repercussions that result from the presence in the Commonwealth of persons or organizations illegally present in the United States.

B. The public safety information exchange program shall be administered by the Secretary and other state and local agencies designated by the Secretary.

C. The Secretary shall seek the cooperation of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or any such successor agencies, and any other federal intelligence organizations as necessary, in order to facilitate the sharing of state and federal information and intelligence among the states participating in the exchange program.

2. That the Secretary of Public Safety shall report to the House Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety and the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice no later than October 1, 2011, on a plan for implementing the public safety information exchange program established by this section.