

2015 RECONVENED SESSION

REENROLLED

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 An Act to direct the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to develop a  
3 comprehensive plan to authorize psychiatrists and emergency physicians to evaluate individuals for  
4 involuntary civil admission.

5 [H 2368]  
6 Approved

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

8 1. § 1. The Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Commissioner) shall, in  
9 conjunction with relevant stakeholders including the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards,  
10 the National Alliance on Mental Illness - Virginia, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia, the Virginia  
11 College of Emergency Physicians, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, the Virginia  
12 Academy of Clinical Psychologists, the Medical Society of Virginia, and the University of Virginia  
13 Institute for Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy, review the current practice of conducting emergency  
14 evaluations for individuals subject to involuntary civil admission. Such review shall identify community  
15 services boards and catchment areas where significant delays in responding to emergency evaluations  
16 are occurring or have occurred in recent years. Further, the Commissioner shall develop a  
17 comprehensive plan to authorize psychiatrists and emergency physicians to evaluate individuals for  
18 involuntary civil admission where appropriate to expedite emergency evaluations. The review and  
19 comprehensive plan including recommendations shall be completed by November 15, 2015, and reported  
20 to the Governor and the Joint Subcommittee Studying Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in  
21 the 21st Century, the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions, and the Senate Committee  
22 on Education and Health.

REENROLLED

HB2368ER2