

# 2016 SESSION

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 455

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 8, 2016

A *BILL to require the Virginia Employment Commission to convene a work group to develop recommendations regarding the allocation of responsibility for unemployment benefit charges among the claimant's employers.*

Patron—Davis

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

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

1. § 1. *That the Virginia Employment Commission shall convene a work group to develop recommendations regarding the allocation of responsibility for unemployment benefit charges among the claimant's employers. The work group shall review the existing requirement that the benefit charges associated with a claimant's receipt of unemployment compensation payments are deemed to be the responsibility of the most recent employing unit for whom the individual performed services for 30 days or 240 hours. The work group shall review the policy and fiscal implications of alternatives to the current approach, including but not limited to (i) requiring all employers who paid wages in the claimant's base period to be responsible on a pro rata basis for the benefit charges or (ii) changing the length of the current 30-day attachment period. The membership of the work group shall include representatives of the Virginia Employment Commission, organizations representing the interests of large and small employers, organizations representing the interests of employees, and other stakeholders that the Virginia Employment Commission deems appropriate for inclusion in the work group. The findings of the work group may include recommendations for statutory changes to the provisions of Title 60.2 of the Code of Virginia that address the allocation of responsibility for benefit charges among employers. The Virginia Employment Commission shall provide a summary of the work of the work group and any preliminary recommendations to the Commission on Unemployment Compensation by December 15, 2016. The Virginia Employment Commission shall report the findings of the work group to the Governor and the General Assembly by January 1, 2017, as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports, and the report shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.*

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