

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 2.2-222.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Secure Commonwealth*
3 *Panel; membership; reporting.*

4
5 Approved

[S 634]

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

7 **1. That § 2.2-222.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 **§ 2.2-222.3. Secure Commonwealth Panel; membership; duties; compensation; staff.**

9 A. The Secure Commonwealth Panel (the Panel) is established as an advisory board, within the
10 meaning of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government. The Panel shall consist of 33 34
11 members as follows: three members of the House of Delegates and two nonlegislative citizens to be
12 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; three members of the Senate of Virginia and two
13 nonlegislative citizens to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; the Lieutenant Governor; the
14 Attorney General; the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia; the Secretaries of
15 Commerce and Trade, Health and Human Resources, Technology, Transportation, and Public Safety and
16 Homeland Security, and Veterans and Defense Affairs, or their designees; two local first responders;
17 three local government representatives; two physicians with knowledge of public health; four members
18 from the business or industry sector; and four citizens from the Commonwealth at large. Except for
19 appointments made by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Senate Committee on Rules, all
20 appointments shall be made by the Governor. Additional ex officio members may be appointed to the
21 Panel by the Governor. Legislative members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office or
22 until their successors shall qualify. Nonlegislative citizen members shall serve for terms of four years.
23 The Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security shall be the chairman of the Panel.

24 B. The Panel shall monitor and assess the implementation of statewide prevention, preparedness,
25 response, and recovery initiatives and where necessary review, evaluate, and make recommendations
26 relating to the emergency preparedness of government at all levels in the Commonwealth. The Panel
27 shall make ~~quarterly~~ annual reports to the Governor concerning the state's emergency preparedness,
28 response, recovery, and prevention efforts.

29 C. Members of the Panel shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for all reasonable
30 and necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties as provided in § 2.2-2825.

31 D. Staff support for the Panel and funding for the costs of expenses of the members shall be
32 provided by the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security.

33 E. The Secretary shall facilitate cabinet-level coordination among the various agencies of state
34 government related to emergency preparedness and shall facilitate private sector preparedness and
35 communication.

ENROLLED

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