

2017 SESSION

INTRODUCED

17101408D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1550

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled December 29, 2016

A *BILL to require the Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and Medical Assistance Services to study use of the Involuntary Mental Commitment Fund; report.*

Patron—Farrell

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall, in cooperation with the Department of Medical Assistance Services, study the potential use of the Involuntary Mental Commitment Fund to fund mental health treatment in the Commonwealth. In conducting such study, the Department shall evaluate (i) the potential use of the Involuntary Mental Commitment Fund to fund both involuntary temporary detention and voluntary treatment in a health care facility for the treatment of mental illness to reduce the use of involuntary treatment in the Commonwealth, (ii) the potential benefits of transferring management of the Involuntary Mental Commitment Fund from the Department of Medical Assistance Services to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and (iii) any other strategies for improving use of the funds in the Involuntary Mental Commitment Fund to improve access to mental health services in the Commonwealth. The Department shall report its findings to the Joint Subcommittee Studying Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century by November 1, 2017.*

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