

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and the Director*
3 *of Criminal Justice Services to develop a comprehensive model for the use of alternative*
4 *transportation providers to provide safe and efficient transportation of individuals involved in the*
5 *emergency custody or involuntary admission process.*

6 [S 1221]

7 Approved

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

9 **1. § 1.** *The Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Commissioner) and the*
10 *Director of Criminal Justice Services (the Director) shall, in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders,*
11 *including the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, the National Alliance on Mental*
12 *Illness - Virginia, the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Office of Emergency Medical*
13 *Services, Mental Health America of Virginia, VOCAL, Inc., the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare*
14 *Association, the Virginia Association of Health Plans, the Office of the Executive Secretary of the*
15 *Supreme Court of Virginia, the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, the Virginia Sheriffs'*
16 *Association, the Virginia Association of Regional Jails, and the University of Virginia Institute of Law,*
17 *Psychiatry, and Public Policy, develop a model for the use of alternative transportation providers to*
18 *provide safe and efficient transportation of individuals involved in the emergency custody or involuntary*
19 *admission process as an alternative to transportation by law enforcement.*

20 *The model shall include criteria for the certification of alternative transportation providers, including*
21 *the development of a training curriculum required to achieve such certification, and shall identify the*
22 *appropriate agency responsible for providing such training and such certification. Further, the*
23 *Commissioner and the Director shall identify any barriers to the use of alternative transportation in the*
24 *Commonwealth and detail the costs associated with the implementation of such a model, along with the*
25 *cost savings and benefits associated with the successful implementation of such a model.*

26 *The model shall be completed by October 1, 2017, and reported to the Joint Subcommittee to Study*
27 *Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century, the House Committee for Courts of*
28 *Justice, and the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice. The report on such model shall also be*
29 *submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the*
30 *processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2018 Regular Session*
31 *of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.*

ENROLLED

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