VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2019 SESSION

CHAPTER 473

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1.2 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.13, relating to Physical Evidence Recovery Kit Tracking System.

[H 2080]

Approved March 18, 2019

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1.2 of Title 19.2 a section numbered 19.2-11.13 as follows:
 - § 19.2-11.13. Physical Evidence Recovery Kit Tracking System.
- A. The Department shall maintain a statewide electronic tracking system for physical evidence recovery kits. The Physical Evidence Recovery Kit Tracking System (the System) will utilize an assigned unique identification number to track each physical evidence recovery kit from its distribution as an uncollected kit to the health care provider through to its destruction. The Department shall ensure that each physical evidence recovery kit is assigned a unique identification number.
- B. The Department shall provide access to the System to health care providers, law-enforcement agencies, the Division, and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. All such entities and agencies shall be required to enter the identification number and other information pertaining to the kits in the System as required by the Department and to update the status and location of each kit in the System whenever such status or location changes.
- C. The health care provider shall inform the victim of sexual assault of the unique identification number assigned to the physical evidence recovery kit utilized by the health care provider during the forensic medical examination and provide the victim with information regarding the System.
- D. Records entered into the System are confidential and are not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.).
- 2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2020.
- 3. That information about the use of the Physical Evidence Recovery Kit Tracking System shall be reported in the Forensic Science Board's annual report that is submitted by November 1 of each year in accordance with subsection B of § 9.1-1110 of the Code of Virginia.