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HOUSE BILL NO. 2581

Offered January 9, 2019

Prefiled January 9, 2019

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-3705.5 and 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 32.1 a chapter numbered 20, consisting of sections numbered 32.1-373 through 32.1-376, relating to Maternal Mortality Review Team established; investigations.

Patrons—Kory and Robinson

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 2.2-3705.5 and 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 32.1 a chapter numbered 20, consisting of sections numbered 32.1-373 through 32.1-376, as follows:

§ 2.2-3705.5. Exclusions to application of chapter; health and social services records.

The following information contained in a public record is excluded from the mandatory disclosure provisions of this chapter but may be disclosed by the custodian in his discretion, except where such disclosure is prohibited by law. Redaction of information excluded under this section from a public record shall be conducted in accordance with § 2.2-3704.01.

1. Health records, except that such records may be personally reviewed by the individual who is the subject of such records, as provided in subsection F of § 32.1-127.1:03.

Where the person who is the subject of health records is confined in a state or local correctional facility, the administrator or chief medical officer of such facility may assert such confined person's right of access to the health records if the administrator or chief medical officer has reasonable cause to believe that such confined person has an infectious disease or other medical condition from which other persons so confined need to be protected. Health records shall only be reviewed and shall not be copied by such administrator or chief medical officer. The information in the health records of a person so confined shall continue to be confidential and shall not be disclosed by the administrator or chief medical officer of the facility to any person except the subject or except as provided by law.

Where the person who is the subject of health records is under the age of 18, his right of access may be asserted only by his guardian or his parent, including a noncustodial parent, unless such parent's parental rights have been terminated, a court of competent jurisdiction has restricted or denied such access, or a parent has been denied access to the health record in accordance with § 20-124.6. In instances where the person who is the subject thereof is an emancipated minor, a student in a public institution of higher education, or is a minor who has consented to his own treatment as authorized by § 16.1-338 or 54.1-2969, the right of access may be asserted by the subject person.

For the purposes of this chapter, statistical summaries of incidents and statistical data concerning abuse of individuals receiving services compiled by the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall be disclosed. No such summaries or data shall include any information that identifies specific individuals receiving services.

2. Applications for admission to examinations or for licensure and scoring records maintained by the Department of Health Professions or any board in that department on individual licensees or applicants; information required to be provided to the Department of Health Professions by certain licensees pursuant to § 54.1-2506.1; information held by the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program Committee within the Department of Health Professions that identifies any practitioner who may be, or who is actually, impaired to the extent that disclosure is prohibited by § 54.1-2517; and information relating to the prescribing and dispensing of covered substances to recipients and any abstracts from such information that are in the possession of the Prescription Monitoring Program (Program) pursuant to Chapter 25.2 (§ 54.1-2519 et seq.) of Title 54.1 and any material relating to the operation or security of the Program.

3. Reports, documentary evidence, and other information as specified in §§ 51.5-122 and 51.5-141 and Chapter 1 (§ 63.2-100 et seq.) of Title 63.2 and information and statistical registries required to be kept confidential pursuant to Chapter 1 (§ 63.2-100 et seq.) of Title 63.2.

4. Investigative notes; proprietary information not published, copyrighted or patented; information obtained from employee personnel records; personally identifiable information regarding residents, clients or other recipients of services; other correspondence and information furnished in confidence to the Department of Social Services in connection with an active investigation of an applicant or licensee pursuant to Chapters 17 (§ 63.2-1700 et seq.) and 18 (§ 63.2-1800 et seq.) of Title 63.2; and information

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59 furnished to the Office of the Attorney General in connection with an investigation or litigation pursuant
60 to Article 19.1 (§ 8.01-216.1 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of Title 8.01 and Chapter 9 (§ 32.1-310 et seq.) of
61 Title 32.1. However, nothing in this subdivision shall prevent the disclosure of information from the
62 records of completed investigations in a form that does not reveal the identity of complainants, persons
63 supplying information, or other individuals involved in the investigation.

64 5. Information collected for the designation and verification of trauma centers and other specialty
65 care centers within the Statewide Emergency Medical Services System and Services pursuant to Article
66 2.1 (§ 32.1-111.1 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 32.1.

67 6. Reports and court documents relating to involuntary admission required to be kept confidential
68 pursuant to § 37.2-818.

69 7. Information acquired (i) during a review of any child death conducted by the State Child Fatality
70 Review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.1 or by a local or regional child fatality review team to
71 the extent that such information is made confidential by § 32.1-283.2; (ii) during a review of any death
72 conducted by a family violence fatality review team to the extent that such information is made
73 confidential by § 32.1-283.3; (iii) during a review of any adult death conducted by the Adult Fatality
74 Review Team to the extent made confidential by § 32.1-283.5 or by a local or regional adult fatality
75 review team to the extent that such information is made confidential by § 32.1-283.6; ~~or~~ (iv) by a local
76 or regional overdose fatality review team to the extent that such information is made confidential by
77 § 32.1-283.7; or (v) *during a review of any death conducted by the Maternal Mortality Review Team to*
78 *the extent that such information is made confidential by § 32.1-375.*

79 8. Patient level data collected by the Board of Health and not yet processed, verified, and released,
80 pursuant to § 32.1-276.9, to the Board by the nonprofit organization with which the Commissioner of
81 Health has contracted pursuant to § 32.1-276.4.

82 9. Information relating to a grant application, or accompanying a grant application, submitted to the
83 Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Advisory Board pursuant to Article 12 (§ 51.5-178 et seq.) of
84 Chapter 14 of Title 51.5 that would (i) reveal (a) medical or mental health records or other data
85 identifying individual patients or (b) proprietary business or research-related information produced or
86 collected by the applicant in the conduct of or as a result of study or research on medical, rehabilitative,
87 scientific, technical, or scholarly issues, when such information has not been publicly released,
88 published, copyrighted, or patented, and (ii) be harmful to the competitive position of the applicant.

89 10. Any information copied, recorded, or received by the Commissioner of Health in the course of an
90 examination, investigation, or review of a managed care health insurance plan licensee pursuant to §§
91 32.1-137.4 and 32.1-137.5, including books, records, files, accounts, papers, documents, and any or all
92 computer or other recordings.

93 11. Records of the Virginia Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Program required to be
94 kept confidential pursuant to § 38.2-5002.2.

95 12. Information held by the State Health Commissioner relating to the health of any person subject to
96 an order of quarantine or an order of isolation pursuant to Article 3.02 (§ 32.1-48.05 et seq.) of Chapter
97 2 of Title 32.1. However, nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the disclosure of
98 statistical summaries, abstracts, or other information in aggregate form.

99 13. The names and addresses or other contact information of persons receiving transportation services
100 from a state or local public body or its designee under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act,
101 (42 U.S.C. § 12131 et seq.) or funded by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) created
102 under § 63.2-600.

103 14. Information held by certain health care committees and entities that may be withheld from
104 discovery as privileged communications pursuant to § 8.01-581.17.

105 15. Data and information specified in § 37.2-308.01 relating to proceedings provided for in Article 16
106 (§ 16.1-335 et seq.) of Chapter 11 of Title 16.1 and Chapter 8 (§ 37.2-800 et seq.) of Title 37.2.

107 16. Records of and information held by the Emergency Department Care Coordination Program
108 required to be kept confidential pursuant to § 32.1-372.

109 **§ 2.2-3711. Closed meetings authorized for certain limited purposes.**

110 A. Public bodies may hold closed meetings only for the following purposes:

111 1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment,
112 appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public
113 officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or
114 schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve
115 discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present
116 during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that
117 involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the
118 teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board. Nothing
119 in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body
120 or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or

board collectively.

2. Discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth or any state school system. However, any such student, legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians shall be permitted to be present during the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence at a closed meeting, if such student, parents, or guardians so request in writing and such request is submitted to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

4. The protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business.

5. Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

6. Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

9. Discussion or consideration by governing boards of public institutions of higher education of matters relating to gifts, bequests and fund-raising activities, and of grants and contracts for services or work to be performed by such institution. However, the terms and conditions of any such gifts, bequests, grants, and contracts made by a foreign government, a foreign legal entity, or a foreign person and accepted by a public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth shall be subject to public disclosure upon written request to the appropriate board of visitors. For the purpose of this subdivision, (i) "foreign government" means any government other than the United States government or the government of a state or a political subdivision thereof, (ii) "foreign legal entity" means any legal entity (a) created under the laws of the United States or of any state thereof if a majority of the ownership of the stock of such legal entity is owned by foreign governments or foreign persons or if a majority of the membership of any such entity is composed of foreign persons or foreign legal entities or (b) created under the laws of a foreign government, and (iii) "foreign person" means any individual who is not a citizen or national of the United States or a trust territory or protectorate thereof.

10. Discussion or consideration by the boards of trustees of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, the Virginia Museum of Natural History, the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, and The Science Museum of Virginia of matters relating to specific gifts, bequests, and grants from private sources.

11. Discussion or consideration of honorary degrees or special awards.

12. Discussion or consideration of tests, examinations, or other information used, administered, or prepared by a public body and subject to the exclusion in subdivision 4 of § 2.2-3705.1.

13. Discussion, consideration, or review by the appropriate House or Senate committees of possible disciplinary action against a member arising out of the possible inadequacy of the disclosure statement filed by the member, provided the member may request in writing that the committee meeting not be conducted in a closed meeting.

14. Discussion of strategy with respect to the negotiation of a hazardous waste siting agreement or to consider the terms, conditions, and provisions of a hazardous waste siting agreement if the governing body in open meeting finds that an open meeting will have an adverse effect upon the negotiating position of the governing body or the establishment of the terms, conditions and provisions of the siting agreement, or both. All discussions with the applicant or its representatives may be conducted in a closed meeting.

15. Discussion by the Governor and any economic advisory board reviewing forecasts of economic activity and estimating general and nongeneral fund revenues.

16. Discussion or consideration of medical and mental health records subject to the exclusion in

182 subdivision 1 of § 2.2-3705.5.

183 17. Deliberations of the Virginia Lottery Board in a licensing appeal action conducted pursuant to
184 subsection D of § 58.1-4007 regarding the denial or revocation of a license of a lottery sales agent; and
185 discussion, consideration or review of Virginia Lottery matters related to proprietary lottery game
186 information and studies or investigations excluded from disclosure under subdivision 6 of § 2.2-3705.3
187 and subdivision 11 of § 2.2-3705.7.

188 18. Those portions of meetings in which the Board of Corrections discusses or discloses the identity
189 of, or information tending to identify, any prisoner who (i) provides information about crimes or
190 criminal activities, (ii) renders assistance in preventing the escape of another prisoner or in the
191 apprehension of an escaped prisoner, or (iii) voluntarily or at the instance of a prison official renders
192 other extraordinary services, the disclosure of which is likely to jeopardize the prisoner's life or safety.

193 19. Discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific
194 cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law-enforcement
195 or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to
196 public safety; discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 2 or 14 of § 2.2-3705.2,
197 where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any
198 facility, building, structure, information technology system, or software program; or discussion of reports
199 or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of
200 persons using such facility, building or structure.

201 20. Discussion by the Board of the Virginia Retirement System, acting pursuant to § 51.1-124.30, or
202 of any local retirement system, acting pursuant to § 51.1-803, or by a local finance board or board of
203 trustees of a trust established by one or more local public bodies to invest funds for postemployment
204 benefits other than pensions, acting pursuant to Article 8 (§ 15.2-1544 et seq.) of Chapter 15 of Title
205 15.2, or by the board of visitors of the University of Virginia, acting pursuant to § 23.1-2210, or by the
206 Board of the Virginia College Savings Plan, acting pursuant to § 23.1-706, regarding the acquisition,
207 holding or disposition of a security or other ownership interest in an entity, where such security or
208 ownership interest is not traded on a governmentally regulated securities exchange, to the extent that
209 such discussion (i) concerns confidential analyses prepared for the board of visitors of the University of
210 Virginia, prepared by the retirement system, or a local finance board or board of trustees, or the Virginia
211 College Savings Plan or provided to the retirement system, a local finance board or board of trustees, or
212 the Virginia College Savings Plan under a promise of confidentiality, of the future value of such
213 ownership interest or the future financial performance of the entity, and (ii) would have an adverse
214 effect on the value of the investment to be acquired, held, or disposed of by the retirement system, a
215 local finance board or board of trustees, the board of visitors of the University of Virginia, or the
216 Virginia College Savings Plan. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent the disclosure
217 of information relating to the identity of any investment held, the amount invested or the present value
218 of such investment.

219 21. Those portions of meetings in which individual child death cases are discussed by the State Child
220 Fatality Review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.1, those portions of meetings in which
221 individual child death cases are discussed by a regional or local child fatality review team established
222 pursuant to § 32.1-283.2, those portions of meetings in which individual death cases are discussed by
223 family violence fatality review teams established pursuant to § 32.1-283.3, those portions of meetings in
224 which individual adult death cases are discussed by the state Adult Fatality Review Team established
225 pursuant to § 32.1-283.5, those portions of meetings in which individual adult death cases are discussed
226 by a local or regional adult fatality review team established pursuant to § 32.1-283.6, and those portions
227 of meetings in which individual death cases are discussed by overdose fatality review teams established
228 pursuant to § 32.1-283.7, *and those portions of meetings in which individual death cases are discussed*
229 *by the Maternal Mortality Review Team pursuant to § 32.1-375.*

230 22. Those portions of meetings of the board of visitors of the University of Virginia or the Eastern
231 Virginia Medical School Board of Visitors, as the case may be, and those portions of meetings of any
232 persons to whom management responsibilities for the University of Virginia Medical Center or Eastern
233 Virginia Medical School, as the case may be, have been delegated, in which there is discussed
234 proprietary, business-related information pertaining to the operations of the University of Virginia
235 Medical Center or Eastern Virginia Medical School, as the case may be, including business development
236 or marketing strategies and activities with existing or future joint venturers, partners, or other parties
237 with whom the University of Virginia Medical Center or Eastern Virginia Medical School, as the case
238 may be, has formed, or forms, any arrangement for the delivery of health care, if disclosure of such
239 information would adversely affect the competitive position of the Medical Center or Eastern Virginia
240 Medical School, as the case may be.

241 23. Discussion or consideration by the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Authority
242 or the board of visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University of any of the following: the acquisition or
243 disposition by the Authority of real property, equipment, or technology software or hardware and related

goods or services, where disclosure would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Authority; matters relating to gifts or bequests to, and fund-raising activities of, the Authority; grants and contracts for services or work to be performed by the Authority; marketing or operational strategies plans of the Authority where disclosure of such strategies or plans would adversely affect the competitive position of the Authority; and members of the Authority's medical and teaching staffs and qualifications for appointments thereto.

24. Those portions of the meetings of the Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program Committee within the Department of Health Professions to the extent such discussions identify any practitioner who may be, or who actually is, impaired pursuant to Chapter 25.1 (§ 54.1-2515 et seq.) of Title 54.1.

25. Meetings or portions of meetings of the Board of the Virginia College Savings Plan wherein personal information, as defined in § 2.2-3801, which has been provided to the Board or its employees by or on behalf of individuals who have requested information about, applied for, or entered into prepaid tuition contracts or savings trust account agreements pursuant to Chapter 7 (§ 23.1-700 et seq.) of Title 23.1 is discussed.

26. Discussion or consideration, by the former Wireless Carrier E-911 Cost Recovery Subcommittee created pursuant to former § 56-484.15, of trade secrets, as defined in the Uniform Trade Secrets Act (§ 59.1-336 et seq.), submitted by CMRS providers as defined in § 56-484.12, related to the provision of wireless E-911 service.

27. Those portions of disciplinary proceedings by any regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, Department of Health Professions, or the Board of Accountancy conducted pursuant to § 2.2-4019 or 2.2-4020 during which the board deliberates to reach a decision or meetings of health regulatory boards or conference committees of such boards to consider settlement proposals in pending disciplinary actions or modifications to previously issued board orders as requested by either of the parties.

28. Discussion or consideration of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 11 of § 2.2-3705.6 by a responsible public entity or an affected locality or public entity, as those terms are defined in § 33.2-1800, or any independent review panel appointed to review information and advise the responsible public entity concerning such records.

29. Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

30. Discussion or consideration of grant or loan application information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 17 of § 2.2-3705.6 by (i) the Commonwealth Health Research Board or (ii) the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority or the Research and Technology Investment Advisory Committee appointed to advise the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Investment Authority.

31. Discussion or consideration by the Commitment Review Committee of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 5 of § 2.2-3705.2 relating to individuals subject to commitment as sexually violent predators under Chapter 9 (§ 37.2-900 et seq.) of Title 37.2.

32. Discussion or consideration of confidential proprietary information and trade secrets developed and held by a local public body providing certain telecommunication services or cable television services and subject to the exclusion in subdivision 18 of § 2.2-3705.6. However, the exemption provided by this subdivision shall not apply to any authority created pursuant to the BVU Authority Act (§ 15.2-7200 et seq.).

33. Discussion or consideration by a local authority created in accordance with the Virginia Wireless Service Authorities Act (§ 15.2-5431.1 et seq.) of confidential proprietary information and trade secrets subject to the exclusion in subdivision 19 of § 2.2-3705.6.

34. Discussion or consideration by the State Board of Elections or local electoral boards of voting security matters made confidential pursuant to § 24.2-625.1.

35. Discussion or consideration by the Forensic Science Board or the Scientific Advisory Committee created pursuant to Article 2 (§ 9.1-1109 et seq.) of Chapter 11 of Title 9.1 of criminal investigative files subject to the exclusion in subdivision B 1 of § 2.2-3706.

36. Discussion or consideration by the Brown v. Board of Education Scholarship Committee of information or confidential matters subject to the exclusion in subdivision A 3 of § 2.2-3705.4, and meetings of the Committee to deliberate concerning the annual maximum scholarship award, review and consider scholarship applications and requests for scholarship award renewal, and cancel, rescind, or recover scholarship awards.

37. Discussion or consideration by the Virginia Port Authority of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 1 of § 2.2-3705.6 related to certain proprietary information gathered by or for the Virginia Port Authority.

38. Discussion or consideration by the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System acting

305 pursuant to § 51.1-124.30, by the Investment Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to § 51.1-124.26,
306 by any local retirement system, acting pursuant to § 51.1-803, by the Board of the Virginia College
307 Savings Plan acting pursuant to § 23.1-706, or by the Virginia College Savings Plan's Investment
308 Advisory Committee appointed pursuant to § 23.1-702 of information subject to the exclusion in
309 subdivision 24 of § 2.2-3705.7.

310 39. Discussion or consideration of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 3 of
311 § 2.2-3705.6 related to economic development.

312 40. Discussion or consideration by the Board of Education of information relating to the denial,
313 suspension, or revocation of teacher licenses subject to the exclusion in subdivision 11 of § 2.2-3705.3.

314 41. Those portions of meetings of the Virginia Military Advisory Council or any commission created
315 by executive order for the purpose of studying and making recommendations regarding preventing
316 closure or realignment of federal military and national security installations and facilities located in
317 Virginia and relocation of such facilities to Virginia, or a local or regional military affairs organization
318 appointed by a local governing body, during which there is discussion of information subject to the
319 exclusion in subdivision 8 of § 2.2-3705.2.

320 42. Discussion or consideration by the Board of Trustees of the Veterans Services Foundation of
321 information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 28 of § 2.2-3705.7 related to personally identifiable
322 information of donors.

323 43. Discussion or consideration by the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission of
324 information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 23 of § 2.2-3705.6 related to certain information
325 contained in grant applications.

326 44. Discussion or consideration by the board of directors of the Commercial Space Flight Authority
327 of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 24 of § 2.2-3705.6 related to rate structures or
328 charges for the use of projects of, the sale of products of, or services rendered by the Authority and
329 certain proprietary information of a private entity provided to the Authority.

330 45. Discussion or consideration of personal and proprietary information related to the resource
331 management plan program and subject to the exclusion in (i) subdivision 25 of § 2.2-3705.6 or (ii)
332 subsection E of § 10.1-104.7. This exclusion shall not apply to the discussion or consideration of
333 records that contain information that has been certified for release by the person who is the subject of
334 the information or transformed into a statistical or aggregate form that does not allow identification of
335 the person who supplied, or is the subject of, the information.

336 46. Discussion or consideration by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control
337 Authority of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 1 of § 2.2-3705.3 related to
338 investigations of applicants for licenses and permits and of licensees and permittees.

339 47. Discussion or consideration of grant or loan application records subject to the exclusion in
340 subdivision 28 of § 2.2-3705.6 related to the submission of an application for an award from the
341 Virginia Research Investment Fund pursuant to Article 8 (§ 23.1-3130 et seq.) of Chapter 31 of Title
342 23.1 or interviews of parties to an application by a reviewing entity pursuant to subsection D of
343 § 23.1-3133 or by the Virginia Research Investment Committee.

344 48. Discussion or development of grant proposals by a regional council established pursuant to
345 Article 26 (§ 2.2-2484 et seq.) of Chapter 24 to be submitted for consideration to the Virginia Growth
346 and Opportunity Board.

347 49. Discussion or consideration of (i) individual sexual assault cases by a sexual assault team
348 established pursuant to § 15.2-1627.4 or (ii) individual child abuse or neglect cases or sex offenses
349 involving a child by a child abuse team established pursuant to § 15.2-1627.5.

350 50. Discussion or consideration by the Board of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership
351 Authority, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, or any subcommittees thereof, of the
352 portions of the strategic plan, marketing plan, or operational plan exempt from disclosure pursuant to
353 subdivision 33 of § 2.2-3705.7.

354 51. Those portions of meetings of the subcommittee of the Board of the Virginia Economic
355 Development Partnership Authority established pursuant to subsection F of § 2.2-2237.3 to review and
356 discuss information received from the Virginia Employment Commission pursuant to subdivision C 2 of
357 § 60.2-114.

358 B. No resolution, ordinance, rule, contract, regulation or motion adopted, passed or agreed to in a
359 closed meeting shall become effective unless the public body, following the meeting, reconvenes in open
360 meeting and takes a vote of the membership on such resolution, ordinance, rule, contract, regulation, or
361 motion that shall have its substance reasonably identified in the open meeting.

362 C. Public officers improperly selected due to the failure of the public body to comply with the other
363 provisions of this section shall be de facto officers and, as such, their official actions are valid until they
364 obtain notice of the legal defect in their election.

365 D. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the holding of conferences between two or
366 more public bodies, or their representatives, but these conferences shall be subject to the same

procedures for holding closed meetings as are applicable to any other public body.

E. This section shall not be construed to (i) require the disclosure of any contract between the Department of Health Professions and an impaired practitioner entered into pursuant to Chapter 25.1 (§ 54.1-2515 et seq.) of Title 54.1 or (ii) require the board of directors of any authority created pursuant to the Industrial Development and Revenue Bond Act (§ 15.2-4900 et seq.), or any public body empowered to issue industrial revenue bonds by general or special law, to identify a business or industry to which subdivision A 5 applies. However, such business or industry shall be identified as a matter of public record at least 30 days prior to the actual date of the board's authorization of the sale or issuance of such bonds.

CHAPTER 20.

MATERNAL MORTALITY PREVENTION PROGRAM.

§ 32.1-373. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Pregnancy-associated death" means the death of a woman while pregnant or during the one-year period immediately following the date of the end of the pregnancy, regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy and irrespective of the cause of death.

"Pregnancy-related death" means the death of a woman while pregnant or during the one-year period immediately following the date of the end of the pregnancy, regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy, from any cause related to, or aggravated by, the pregnancy or the management of the pregnancy, excluding any accidental cause.

§ 32.1-374. Reporting of pregnancy-related deaths; mandatory reporting; voluntary reporting.

A. Any of the following persons who, in his professional or official capacity, has reason to believe a death is a pregnancy-associated death or pregnancy-related death shall report such death to the local department of health for the county or city in which the death occurred within such time and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Board in regulations:

1. Person licensed to practice medicine or the healing arts in attendance at the time the death occurred;

2. Employee of any hospital or health care facility at which the decedent was receiving care at the time the death occurred;

3. Law-enforcement officer; or

4. Funeral director.

However, no person shall be required to report a death believed to be a pregnancy-associated or pregnancy-related death if he has reason to believe the matter has already been reported to the local department of health.

B. Any person who has reason to believe that a death is a pregnancy-associated death or pregnancy-related death may report such death to the local department of health for the county or city in which the death occurred. The Board shall make information about the method by which such reports may be made available on its website.

C. Upon receipt of a report pursuant to subsection A or B, a local health department shall forward the information received pursuant to this section to the Maternal Mortality Review Team established pursuant to § 32.1-375, in such form as may be prescribed by the Board.

D. Reports made pursuant to this section and information related thereto shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed to the public pursuant to subdivision 7 of § 2.2-3705.5.

§ 32.1-375. Maternal Mortality Review Team established; investigations; confidentiality; reports; penalty.

A. The Department shall establish a Maternal Mortality Review Team (the Team) to review pregnancy-associated deaths and pregnancy-related deaths occurring in the Commonwealth in a systematic way and (i) prepare a de-identified case summary for each case; (ii) determine the rate of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth, including rates of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths among different demographic groups; (iii) identify risk factors of pregnancy-associated or pregnancy-related deaths and factors contributing to disparities in rates of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths among demographic groups; and (iv) recommend components of prevention and intervention programs to reduce the rate of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth, including programs (a) for the education and training of health care providers providing care to women who are pregnant or who have been pregnant within the previous year and (b) specifically targeted at reducing racial or other disparities in rates of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth.

B. The Director of the Office of Family Health Services and the Chief Medical Examiner shall serve as co-chairs of the Team. The Team shall include representatives of the Department's Office of Child and Family Health, local health departments, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Social Services, the Virginia

428 *Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the Virginia Section of the American College of*
429 *Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Virginia Chapter of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric*
430 *and Neonatal Nurses, the Medical Society of Virginia, the Virginia Chapter of the National Association*
431 *of Social Workers, the Virginia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the Virginia Hospital and*
432 *Healthcare Association, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance, and such other*
433 *organizations as the Commissioner may deem appropriate.*

434 *C. The Team shall review every case reported to a local department of health pursuant to*
435 *§ 32.1-374. The Team shall also annually request and review records of the State Registrar of Vital*
436 *Statistics to identify cases of pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths by (i) identifying cases*
437 *in which the death certificate indicates that the deceased was pregnant within three months of the death*
438 *and (ii) matching birth and fetal death certificate records with maternal death certificate information*
439 *and shall review all such deaths.*

440 *D. Each case reviewed pursuant to this section shall include evaluation of the following, if available:*

441 *1. Any report of the circumstances of the death maintained by a state or local law-enforcement*
442 *agency or medical examiner;*

443 *2. Information or records related to the deceased maintained by the Department of Behavioral*
444 *Health and Developmental Services or the Department of Social Services or any local department of*
445 *social services;*

446 *3. Information or records related to the deceased maintained by any court or attorney for the*
447 *Commonwealth;*

448 *4. Medical records of the deceased; and*

449 *5. Oral or written interviews of individuals directly involved in the care of the deceased during and*
450 *immediately following the pregnancy, including providers of health care, mental health, and social*
451 *service services.*

452 *Such records and information shall be made available to the Team for inspection and copying.*
453 *Records maintained by any attorney for the Commonwealth shall be made available for inspection and*
454 *copying pursuant to procedures developed by the Department and the Commonwealth's Attorneys'*
455 *Services Council established pursuant to § 2.2-2617. Any presentence report prepared pursuant to*
456 *§ 19.2-299 for any person convicted of a crime that led to the death under investigation shall be made*
457 *available for inspection and copying pursuant to procedures developed by the Department. The Chief*
458 *Medical Examiner may inspect and copy medical records of the deceased maintained by a health care*
459 *provider in the Commonwealth on behalf of the Team without obtaining consent. All such information*
460 *and records shall be confidential and excluded from the Virginia Freedom of Information Act*
461 *(§ 2.2-3700 et seq.) pursuant to subdivision 7 of § 2.2-3705.5. Upon conclusion of the investigation, all*
462 *information and records concerning the investigation shall be destroyed by the Department to ensure*
463 *confidentiality. Such information and records shall not be subject to subpoena or discovery or be*
464 *admissible in any criminal or civil proceeding. If available from other sources, however, such*
465 *information and records shall not be immune from subpoena, discovery, or introduction into evidence*
466 *when obtained through such other sources solely because the information and records were presented to*
467 *the Team during a review pursuant to this section.*

468 *E. The Team shall prepare a de-identified case summary for each case investigated pursuant to this*
469 *section and shall report information and statistics about pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related*
470 *deaths in the Commonwealth, investigations undertaken pursuant to this section, and recommendations*
471 *for prevention and intervention programs to reduce the rate of pregnancy-associated and*
472 *pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth to the Governor and the General Assembly by December*
473 *1 of each year. The Team may disclose or publish information regarding cases investigated pursuant to*
474 *this section in statistical or other form that shall not identify individuals.*

475 *F. The portions of meetings in which individual cases are discussed by the Team shall be closed*
476 *pursuant to subdivision A 21 of § 2.2-3711. In addition to the requirements of § 2.2-3712, all members*
477 *of the Team, persons participating or assisting in the investigation, and persons presenting information*
478 *and records on specific deaths to the Team shall execute a sworn statement to honor the confidentiality*
479 *of the information, records, discussions, and opinions disclosed during any meeting to review a specific*
480 *pregnancy-associated or pregnancy-related death. Violations of this subsection are punishable as a*
481 *Class 3 misdemeanor.*

482 **§ 32.1-376. Maternal mortality prevention program.**

483 *The Department shall establish a program for the reduction of pregnancy-associated and*
484 *pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth. Such program shall include identification of factors that*
485 *contribute to pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths in the Commonwealth and actions to*
486 *prevent or mitigate such factors, including efforts to (i) educate the public generally, and pregnant*
487 *women specifically, about the risk factors for pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related deaths and*
488 *(ii) provide education and training for health care providers providing care to women who are pregnant*
489 *or who have been pregnant within the previous year regarding the risk factors for pregnancy-associated*

490 *and pregnancy-related death and steps that can be taken to prevent or mitigate such factors. Such*
491 *program shall include a specific focus on identification of disparities in rates of pregnancy-associated*
492 *and pregnancy-related deaths among demographic groups, factors contributing to such disparities, and*
493 *actions that may reduce such disparities.*