2020 SESSION

20108708D

1

2

3

4

5 6

7

8

11

SENATE BILL NO. 546

FLOOR AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by Delegate Mullin

on February 21, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Edwards)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 16.1-241, 16.1-269.1, 16.1-269.2, and 16.1-277.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to juveniles; trial as an adult.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

9 1. That §§ 16.1-241, 16.1-269.1, 16.1-269.2, and 16.1-277.1 of the Code of Virginia are amended 10 and reenacted as follows:

§ 16.1-241. Jurisdiction; consent for abortion.

12 The judges of the juvenile and domestic relations district court elected or appointed under this law 13 shall be conservators of the peace within the corporate limits of the cities and the boundaries of the counties for which they are respectively chosen and within one mile beyond the limits of such cities and 14 15 counties. Except as hereinafter provided, each juvenile and domestic relations district court shall have, 16 within the limits of the territory for which it is created, exclusive original jurisdiction, and within one 17 mile beyond the limits of said city or county, concurrent jurisdiction with the juvenile court or courts of 18 the adjoining city or county, over all cases, matters and proceedings involving: 19

A. The custody, visitation, support, control or disposition of a child:

20 1. Who is alleged to be abused, neglected, in need of services, in need of supervision, a status 21 offender, or delinquent except where the jurisdiction of the juvenile court has been terminated or 22 divested;

23 2. Who is abandoned by his parent or other custodian or who by reason of the absence or physical 24 or mental incapacity of his parents is without parental care and guardianship;

25 2a. Who is at risk of being abused or neglected by a parent or custodian who has been adjudicated as having abused or neglected another child in the care of the parent or custodian; 26

27 3. Whose custody, visitation or support is a subject of controversy or requires determination. In such 28 cases jurisdiction shall be concurrent with and not exclusive of courts having equity jurisdiction, except 29 as provided in § 16.1-244;

30 4. Who is the subject of an entrustment agreement entered into pursuant to § 63.2-903 or 63.2-1817 31 or whose parent or parents for good cause desire to be relieved of his care and custody;

32 5. Where the termination of residual parental rights and responsibilities is sought. In such cases jurisdiction shall be concurrent with and not exclusive of courts having equity jurisdiction, as provided 33 34 in § 16.1-244;

6. Who is charged with a traffic infraction as defined in § 46.2-100; or

7. Who is alleged to have refused to take a blood test in violation of § 18.2-268.2.

37 In any case in which the juvenile is alleged to have committed a violent juvenile felony enumerated 38 in subsection B of § 16.1-269.1, and for any charges ancillary thereto, the jurisdiction of the juvenile 39 court shall be limited to conducting a preliminary hearing to determine if there is probable cause to 40 believe that the juvenile committed the act alleged and that the juvenile was 14 16 years of age or older at the time of the commission of the alleged offense, and any matters related thereto. In any case in 41 42 which the juvenile is alleged to have committed a violent juvenile felony enumerated in subsection C of § 16.1-269.1, and for all charges ancillary thereto, if the attorney for the Commonwealth has given 43 notice as provided in subsection C of § 16.1-269.1, the jurisdiction of the juvenile court shall be limited 44 to conducting a preliminary hearing to determine if there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile committed the act alleged and that the juvenile was 14 16 years of age or older at the time of the 45 46 commission of the alleged offense, and any matters related thereto. A determination by the juvenile 47 **48** court following a preliminary hearing pursuant to subsection B or C of § 16.1-269.1 to certify a charge to the grand jury shall divest the juvenile court of jurisdiction over the charge and any ancillary charge. 49 In any case in which a transfer hearing is held pursuant to subsection A of § 16.1-269.1, if the juvenile 50 51 court determines to transfer the case, jurisdiction of the juvenile court over the case shall be divested as 52 provided in § 16.1-269.6.

53 In all other cases involving delinquent acts, and in cases in which an ancillary charge remains after a 54 violent juvenile felony charge has been dismissed or a violent juvenile felony has been reduced to a 55 lesser offense not constituting a violent juvenile felony, the jurisdiction of the juvenile court shall not be divested unless there is a transfer pursuant to subsection A of § 16.1-269.1. 56

The authority of the juvenile court to adjudicate matters involving the custody, visitation, support, 57 control or disposition of a child shall not be limited to the consideration of petitions filed by a mother, 58 59 father or legal guardian but shall include petitions filed at any time by any party with a legitimate SB546H2

35

36

94

60 interest therein. A party with a legitimate interest shall be broadly construed and shall include, but not

61 be limited to, grandparents, step-grandparents, stepparents, former stepparents, blood relatives and family members. A party with a legitimate interest shall not include any person (i) whose parental rights have 62 63 been terminated by court order, either voluntarily or involuntarily, (ii) whose interest in the child derives 64 from or through a person whose parental rights have been terminated by court order, either voluntarily 65 or involuntarily, including, but not limited to, grandparents, stepparents, former stepparents, blood

relatives and family members, if the child subsequently has been legally adopted, except where a final 66 order of adoption is entered pursuant to § 63.2-1241, or (iii) who has been convicted of a violation of 67 subsection A of § 18.2-61, § 18.2-63, subsection B of § 18.2-366, or an equivalent offense of another 68 state, the United States, or any foreign jurisdiction, when the child who is the subject of the petition was 69 conceived as a result of such violation. The authority of the juvenile court to consider a petition involving the custody of a child shall not be proscribed or limited where the child has previously been 70 71 72 awarded to the custody of a local board of social services.

73 A1. Making specific findings of fact required by state or federal law to enable a child to apply for or 74 receive a state or federal benefit.

75 B. The admission of minors for inpatient treatment in a mental health facility in accordance with the provisions of Article 16 (§ 16.1-335 et seq.) and the involuntary admission of a person with mental 76 illness or judicial certification of eligibility for admission to a training center for persons with 77 78 intellectual disability in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 8 (§ 37.2-800 et seq.) of Title 37.2. 79 Jurisdiction of the involuntary admission and certification of adults shall be concurrent with the general 80 district court.

81 C. Except as provided in subsections D and H, judicial consent to such activities as may require parental consent may be given for a child who has been separated from his parents, guardian, legal 82 83 custodian or other person standing in loco parentis and is in the custody of the court when such consent 84 is required by law.

85 D. Judicial consent for emergency surgical or medical treatment for a child who is neither married nor has ever been married, when the consent of his parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person 86 87 standing in loco parentis is unobtainable because such parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person 88 standing in loco parentis (i) is not a resident of the Commonwealth, (ii) has his whereabouts unknown, 89 (iii) cannot be consulted with promptness, reasonable under the circumstances, or (iv) fails to give such 90 consent or provide such treatment when requested by the judge to do so.

E. Any person charged with deserting, abandoning or failing to provide support for any person in 91 92 violation of law. 93

F. Any parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person standing in loco parentis of a child:

1. Who has been abused or neglected;

95 2. Who is the subject of an entrustment agreement entered into pursuant to § 63.2-903 or 63.2-1817 96 or is otherwise before the court pursuant to subdivision A 4; or

3. Who has been adjudicated in need of services, in need of supervision, or delinquent, if the court 97 98 finds that such person has by overt act or omission induced, caused, encouraged or contributed to the 99 conduct of the child complained of in the petition.

100 G. Petitions filed by or on behalf of a child or such child's parent, guardian, legal custodian or other 101 person standing in loco parentis for the purpose of obtaining treatment, rehabilitation or other services 102 that are required by law to be provided for that child or such child's parent, guardian, legal custodian or 103 other person standing in loco parentis. Jurisdiction in such cases shall be concurrent with and not 104 exclusive of that of courts having equity jurisdiction as provided in § 16.1-244.

105 H. Judicial consent to apply for a work permit for a child when such child is separated from his 106 parents, legal guardian or other person standing in loco parentis.

I. The prosecution and punishment of persons charged with ill-treatment, abuse, abandonment or neglect of children or with any violation of law that causes or tends to cause a child to come within the 107 108 purview of this law, or with any other offense against the person of a child. In prosecution for felonies 109 110 over which the court has jurisdiction, jurisdiction shall be limited to determining whether or not there is 111 probable cause.

112 J. All offenses in which one family or household member is charged with an offense in which 113 another family or household member is the victim and all offenses under § 18.2-49.1.

114 In prosecution for felonies over which the court has jurisdiction, jurisdiction shall be limited to determining whether or not there is probable cause. Any objection based on jurisdiction under this 115 116 subsection shall be made before a jury is impaneled and sworn in a jury trial or, in a nonjury trial, before the earlier of when the court begins to hear or receive evidence or the first witness is sworn, or it 117 118 shall be conclusively waived for all purposes. Any such objection shall not affect or be grounds for challenging directly or collaterally the jurisdiction of the court in which the case is tried. 119

120 K. Petitions filed by a natural parent, whose parental rights to a child have been voluntarily relinquished pursuant to a court proceeding, to seek a reversal of the court order terminating such 121

SB546H2

122 parental rights. No such petition shall be accepted, however, after the child has been placed in the home 123 of adoptive parents.

124 L. Any person who seeks spousal support after having separated from his spouse. A decision under 125 this subdivision shall not be res judicata in any subsequent action for spousal support in a circuit court. 126 A circuit court shall have concurrent original jurisdiction in all causes of action under this subdivision.

127 M. Petitions filed for the purpose of obtaining an order of protection pursuant to § 16.1-253.1,

128 16.1-253.4, or 16.1-279.1, and all petitions filed for the purpose of obtaining an order of protection 129 pursuant to § 19.2-152.8, 19.2-152.9, or 19.2-152.10 if either the alleged victim or the respondent is a 130 juvenile.

131 N. Any person who escapes or remains away without proper authority from a residential care facility 132 in which he had been placed by the court or as a result of his commitment to the Virginia Department 133 of Juvenile Justice.

134 O. Petitions for emancipation of a minor pursuant to Article 15 (§ 16.1-331 et seq.).

135 P. Petitions for enforcement of administrative support orders entered pursuant to Chapter 19 136 (§ 63.2-1900 et seq.) of Title 63.2, or by another state in the same manner as if the orders were entered 137 by a juvenile and domestic relations district court upon the filing of a certified copy of such order in the 138 juvenile and domestic relations district court.

139 Q. Petitions for a determination of parentage pursuant to Chapter 3.1 (§ 20-49.1 et seq.) of Title 20. 140 A circuit court shall have concurrent original jurisdiction to the extent provided for in § 20-49.2. 141

R. [Repealed.]

142

S. Petitions filed by school boards against parents pursuant to §§ 16.1-241.2 and 22.1-279.3.

143 T. Petitions to enforce any request for information or subpoena that is not complied with or to 144 review any refusal to issue a subpoena in an administrative appeal regarding child abuse and neglect 145 pursuant to § 63.2-1526.

146 U. Petitions filed in connection with parental placement adoption consent hearings pursuant to 147 § 63.2-1233. Such proceedings shall be advanced on the docket so as to be heard by the court within 10 148 days of filing of the petition, or as soon thereafter as practicable so as to provide the earliest possible 149 disposition.

150 V. Petitions filed for the purpose of obtaining the court's assistance with the execution of consent to 151 an adoption when the consent to an adoption is executed pursuant to the laws of another state and the 152 laws of that state provide for the execution of consent to an adoption in the court of the 153 Commonwealth.

154 W. Petitions filed by a juvenile seeking judicial authorization for a physician to perform an abortion 155 if a minor elects not to seek consent of an authorized person.

156 After a hearing, a judge shall issue an order authorizing a physician to perform an abortion, without 157 the consent of any authorized person, if he finds that (i) the minor is mature enough and well enough 158 informed to make her abortion decision, in consultation with her physician, independent of the wishes of 159 any authorized person, or (ii) the minor is not mature enough or well enough informed to make such 160 decision, but the desired abortion would be in her best interest.

161 If the judge authorizes an abortion based on the best interests of the minor, such order shall 162 expressly state that such authorization is subject to the physician or his agent giving notice of intent to perform the abortion; however, no such notice shall be required if the judge finds that such notice would 163 not be in the best interest of the minor. In determining whether notice is in the best interest of the 164 165 minor, the judge shall consider the totality of the circumstances; however, he shall find that notice is not 166 in the best interest of the minor if he finds that (i) one or more authorized persons with whom the minor regularly and customarily resides is abusive or neglectful, and (ii) every other authorized person, 167 168 if any, is either abusive or neglectful or has refused to accept responsibility as parent, legal guardian, custodian or person standing in loco parentis. 169

170 The minor may participate in the court proceedings on her own behalf, and the court may appoint a 171 guardian ad litem for the minor. The court shall advise the minor that she has a right to counsel and 172 shall, upon her request, appoint counsel for her.

173 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the provisions of this subsection shall govern 174 proceedings relating to consent for a minor's abortion. Court proceedings under this subsection and 175 records of such proceedings shall be confidential. Such proceedings shall be given precedence over other 176 pending matters so that the court may reach a decision promptly and without delay in order to serve the 177 best interests of the minor. Court proceedings under this subsection shall be heard and decided as soon 178 as practicable but in no event later than four days after the petition is filed.

179 An expedited confidential appeal to the circuit court shall be available to any minor for whom the 180 court denies an order authorizing an abortion without consent or without notice. Any such appeal shall 181 be heard and decided no later than five days after the appeal is filed. The time periods required by this subsection shall be subject to subsection B of § 1-210. An order authorizing an abortion without consent 182

183 or without notice shall not be subject to appeal.

184 No filing fees shall be required of the minor at trial or upon appeal.

185 If either the original court or the circuit court fails to act within the time periods required by this 186 subsection, the court before which the proceeding is pending shall immediately authorize a physician to 187 perform the abortion without consent of or notice to an authorized person.

188 Nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed to authorize a physician to perform an 189 abortion on a minor in circumstances or in a manner that would be unlawful if performed on an adult 190 woman.

191 A physician shall not knowingly perform an abortion upon an unemancipated minor unless consent 192 has been obtained or the minor delivers to the physician a court order entered pursuant to this section 193 and the physician or his agent provides such notice as such order may require. However, neither consent nor judicial authorization nor notice shall be required if the minor declares that she is abused or 194 195 neglected and the attending physician has reason to suspect that the minor may be an abused or neglected child as defined in § 63.2-100 and reports the suspected abuse or neglect in accordance with 196 197 § 63.2-1509; or if there is a medical emergency, in which case the attending physician shall certify the 198 facts justifying the exception in the minor's medical record. 199

For purposes of this subsection:

"Authorization" means the minor has delivered to the physician a notarized, written statement signed 200 201 by an authorized person that the authorized person knows of the minor's intent to have an abortion and 202 consents to such abortion being performed on the minor.

"Authorized person" means (i) a parent or duly appointed legal guardian or custodian of the minor or 203 204 (ii) a person standing in loco parentis, including, but not limited to, a grandparent or adult sibling with 205 whom the minor regularly and customarily resides and who has care and control of the minor. Any person who knows he is not an authorized person and who knowingly and willfully signs an 206 authorization statement consenting to an abortion for a minor is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. 207

"Consent" means that (i) the physician has given notice of intent to perform the abortion and has 208 209 received authorization from an authorized person, or (ii) at least one authorized person is present with 210 the minor seeking the abortion and provides written authorization to the physician, which shall be witnessed by the physician or an agent thereof. In either case, the written authorization shall be 211 212 incorporated into the minor's medical record and maintained as a part thereof.

213 "Medical emergency" means any condition which, on the basis of the physician's good faith clinical 214 judgment, so complicates the medical condition of the pregnant minor as to necessitate the immediate 215 abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or for which a delay will create a serious risk of substantial 216 and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function.

"Notice of intent to perform the abortion" means that (i) the physician or his agent has given actual 217 notice of his intention to perform such abortion to an authorized person, either in person or by 218 219 telephone, at least 24 hours previous to the performance of the abortion; or (ii) the physician or his agent, after a reasonable effort to notify an authorized person, has mailed notice to an authorized person 220 221 by certified mail, addressed to such person at his usual place of abode, with return receipt requested, at 222 least 72 hours prior to the performance of the abortion.

223 "Perform an abortion" means to interrupt or terminate a pregnancy by any surgical or nonsurgical 224 procedure or to induce a miscarriage as provided in § 18.2-72, 18.2-73, or 18.2-74.

225 "Unemancipated minor" means a minor who has not been emancipated by (i) entry into a valid 226 marriage, even though the marriage may have been terminated by dissolution; (ii) active duty with any 227 of the Armed Forces of the United States; (iii) willingly living separate and apart from his or her 228 parents or guardian, with the consent or acquiescence of the parents or guardian; or (iv) entry of an 229 order of emancipation pursuant to Article 15 (§ 16.1-331 et seq.).

230 X. Petitions filed pursuant to Article 17 (§ 16.1-349 et seq.) relating to standby guardians for minor 231 children.

232 Y. Petitions involving minors filed pursuant to § 32.1-45.1 relating to obtaining a blood specimen or 233 test results.

234 The ages specified in this law refer to the age of the child at the time of the acts complained of in 235 the petition.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no fees shall be charged by a sheriff for the service of 236 237 any process in a proceeding pursuant to subdivision A 3, except as provided in subdivision A 6 of 238 § 17.1-272, or subsection B, D, M, or R.

239 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 18.2-71, any physician who performs an abortion in violation of 240 subsection W shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. 241

§ 16.1-269.1. Trial in circuit court; preliminary hearing; direct indictment; remand.

A. Except as provided in subsections B and C, if a juvenile 14 years of age or older at the time of 242 243 an alleged offense is charged with an offense which would be a felony if committed by an adult, the 244 court shall, on motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth and prior to a hearing on the merits, hold 245 a transfer hearing and may retain jurisdiction or transfer such juvenile for proper criminal proceedings to 246 the appropriate circuit court having criminal jurisdiction of such offenses if committed by an adult. Any 247 transfer to the appropriate circuit court shall be subject to the following conditions:

248 1. Notice as prescribed in §§ 16.1-263 and 16.1-264 shall be given to the juvenile and his parent, 249 guardian, legal custodian or other person standing in loco parentis; or attorney;

250 2. The juvenile court finds that probable cause exists to believe that the juvenile committed the 251 delinquent act as alleged or a lesser included delinquent act which would be a felony if committed by 252 an adult;

253 3. The juvenile is competent to stand trial. The juvenile is presumed to be competent and the burden 254 is on the party alleging the juvenile is not competent to rebut the presumption by a preponderance of the 255 evidence; and

256 4. The court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the juvenile is not a proper person to 257 remain within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. In determining whether a juvenile is a proper person 258 to remain within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the court shall consider, but not be limited to, the 259 following factors:

a. The juvenile's age;

260

282

283

284

261 b. The seriousness and number of alleged offenses, including (i) whether the alleged offense was 262 committed in an aggressive, violent, premeditated, or willful manner; (ii) whether the alleged offense was against persons or property, with greater weight being given to offenses against persons, especially 263 264 if death or bodily injury resulted; (iii) whether the maximum punishment for such an offense is greater 265 than 20 years confinement if committed by an adult; (iv) whether the alleged offense involved the use of a firearm or other dangerous weapon by brandishing, threatening, displaying or otherwise employing 266 267 such weapon; and (v) the nature of the juvenile's participation in the alleged offense;

268 c. Whether the juvenile can be retained in the juvenile justice system long enough for effective 269 treatment and rehabilitation;

270 d. The appropriateness and availability of the services and dispositional alternatives in both the 271 criminal justice and juvenile justice systems for dealing with the juvenile's problems;

272 e. The record and previous history of the juvenile in this or other jurisdictions, including (i) the number and nature of previous contacts with juvenile or circuit courts, (ii) the number and nature of 273 274 prior periods of probation, (iii) the number and nature of prior commitments to juvenile correctional 275 centers, (iv) the number and nature of previous residential and community-based treatments, (v) whether 276 previous adjudications and commitments were for delinquent acts that involved the infliction of serious 277 bodily injury, and (vi) whether the alleged offense is part of a repetitive pattern of similar adjudicated 278 offenses;

279 f. Whether the juvenile has previously absconded from the legal custody of a juvenile correctional 280 entity in this or any other jurisdiction; 281

g. The extent, if any, of the juvenile's degree of intellectual disability or mental illness;

h. The juvenile's school record and education;

i. The juvenile's mental and emotional maturity; and

j. The juvenile's physical condition and physical maturity.

No transfer decision shall be precluded or reversed on the grounds that the court failed to consider 285 286 any of the factors specified in subdivision 4.

287 B. The juvenile court shall conduct a preliminary hearing whenever a juvenile 14 16 years of age or 288 older is charged with murder in violation of § 18.2-31, 18.2-32 or 18.2-40, or aggravated malicious 289 wounding in violation of § 18.2-51.2. If the juvenile is 14 years of age or older, but less than 16 years 290 of age, then the court may proceed, on motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth, as provided in 291 subsection A.

292 C. The juvenile court shall conduct a preliminary hearing whenever a juvenile 14 16 years of age or 293 older is charged with murder in violation of § 18.2-33; felonious injury by mob in violation of 294 § 18.2-41; abduction in violation of § 18.2-48; malicious wounding in violation of § 18.2-51; malicious 295 wounding of a law-enforcement officer in violation of § 18.2-51.1; felonious poisoning in violation of § 18.2-54.1; adulteration of products in violation of § 18.2-54.2; robbery in violation of § 18.2-58 or 296 297 carjacking in violation of § 18.2-58.1; rape in violation of § 18.2-61; forcible sodomy in violation of 298 § 18.2-67.1; object sexual penetration in violation of § 18.2-67.2; manufacturing, selling, giving, 299 distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute a controlled substance or 300 an imitation controlled substance in violation of § 18.2-248 if the juvenile has been previously 301 adjudicated delinquent on two or more occasions of violating § 18.2-248 provided the adjudications 302 occurred after the juvenile was at least 14 16 years of age; manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, 303 or possessing with intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute methamphetamine in violation of § 18.2-248.03 if the juvenile has been previously adjudicated delinquent on two or more occasions of 304 violating § 18.2-248.03 provided the adjudications occurred after the juvenile was at least 14 16 years of 305

SB546H2

306 age; or felonious manufacturing, selling, giving, distributing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, sell, give, or distribute anabolic steroids in violation of § 18.2-248.5 if the juvenile has been previously 307 308 adjudicated delinquent on two or more occasions of violating § 18.2-248.5 provided the adjudications 309 occurred after the juvenile was at least 14 16 years of age, provided the attorney for the Commonwealth 310 gives written notice of his intent to proceed pursuant to this subsection. Prior to giving written notice of 311 his intent to proceed pursuant to this subsection, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall submit a 312 written request to the director of the court services unit to complete a report as described in subsection 313 B of § 16.1-269.2 unless waived by the juvenile and his attorney or other legal representative. The 314 report shall be filed with the court and mailed or delivered to (i) the attorney for the Commonwealth 315 and (ii) counsel for the juvenile, or, if the juvenile is not represented by counsel, to the juvenile and a 316 parent, guardian, or other person standing in loco parentis with respect to the juvenile, within 21 days of the date of the written request. After reviewing the report, if the attorney for the Commonwealth still 317 318 intends to proceed pursuant to this subsection, he shall then provide the written notice of such intent, which shall include affirmation that he reviewed the report. The notice shall be filed with the court and 319 320 mailed or delivered to counsel for the juvenile or, if the juvenile is not then represented by counsel, to the juvenile and a parent, guardian or other person standing in loco parentis with respect to the juvenile 321 322 at least seven days prior to the preliminary hearing. If the attorney for the Commonwealth elects not to 323 give such notice, or if he elects to withdraw the notice prior to certification of the charge to the grand 324 jury, or if the juvenile is 14 years of age or older, but less than 16 years of age, he may proceed as 325 provided in subsection A.

326 D. Upon a finding of probable cause pursuant to a preliminary hearing under subsection B or C, the 327 juvenile court shall certify the charge, and all ancillary charges, to the grand jury. Such certification 328 shall divest the juvenile court of jurisdiction as to the charge and any ancillary charges. Nothing in this subsection shall divest the juvenile court of jurisdiction over any matters unrelated to such charge and 329 330 ancillary charges which may otherwise be properly within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

331 If the court does not find probable cause to believe that the juvenile has committed the violent 332 juvenile felony as charged in the petition or warrant or if the petition or warrant is terminated by 333 dismissal in the juvenile court, the attorney for the Commonwealth may seek a direct indictment in the 334 circuit court. If the petition or warrant is terminated by nolle prosequi in the juvenile court, the attorney 335 for the Commonwealth may seek an indictment only after a preliminary hearing in juvenile court.

336 If the court finds that the juvenile was not (i) for the purposes of subsection A, 14 years of age or older or (ii) for purposes of subsection B or C, 16 years of age or older, at the time of the alleged 337 338 commission of the offense or that the conditions specified in subdivision A 1, 2, or 3 have not been 339 met, the case shall proceed as otherwise provided for by law.

340 E. An indictment in the circuit court cures any error or defect in any proceeding held in the juvenile 341 court except with respect to the juvenile's age. If an indictment is terminated by nolle prosequi, the 342 Commonwealth may reinstate the proceeding by seeking a subsequent indictment. 343

§ 16.1-269.2. Admissibility of statement; investigation and report; bail.

344 A. Statements made by the juvenile at the transfer hearing provided for under § 16.1-269.1 shall not 345 be admissible against him over objection in any criminal proceedings following the transfer, except for 346 purposes of impeachment.

B. Prior to a transfer hearing pursuant to subsection A of § 16.1-269.1 or a preliminary hearing 347 348 pursuant to subsection C of § 16.1-269.1, a study and report to the court, in writing, relevant to the factors set out in subdivision A 4 of § 16.1-269.1, as well as an assessment of any affiliation with a criminal street gang as defined in § 18.2-46.1, shall be made by the probation services or other qualified 349 350 351 agency designated by the court. Upon motion of the attorney for the Commonwealth for a transfer hearing pursuant to subsection A of § 16.1-269.1, the attorney for the Commonwealth shall provide 352 353 notice to the designated probation services or other qualified agency of the need for a transfer report. 354 Counsel for the juvenile and the attorney for the Commonwealth shall have full access to the study and 355 report and any other report or data concerning the juvenile which are available to the court. The court 356 shall not consider the report until a finding has been made concerning probable cause. If the court so 357 orders, the study and report may be expanded to include matters provided for in § 16.1-273, whereupon 358 it may also serve as the report required by this subsection, but on the condition that it will not be 359 submitted to the judge who will preside at any subsequent hearings except as provided for by law.

360 C. After the completion of the hearing, whether or not the juvenile court decides to retain jurisdiction over the juvenile or transfer such juvenile for criminal proceedings in the circuit court, the juvenile court 361 shall set bail for the juvenile in accordance with Chapter 9 (§ 19.2-119 et seq.) of Title 19.2, if bail has 362 363 not already been set. 364

§ 16.1-277.1. Time limitation.

A. When a child is held continuously in secure detention, he shall be released from confinement if 365 there is no adjudicatory or transfer hearing conducted by the court for the matters upon which he was 366 367 detained within twenty-one days from the date he was first detained.

B. If a child is not held in secure detention or is released from same after having been confined, an adjudicatory or transfer hearing on the matters charged in the petition or petitions issued against him shall be conducted within 120 days from the date the petition or petitions are filed.

C. When a child is held in secure detention after the completion of his adjudicatory hearing or is
detained when the juvenile court has retained jurisdiction as a result of a transfer hearing, he shall be
released from such detention if the disposition hearing is not completed within thirty days from the date
of the adjudicatory or transfer hearing.

375 D. The time limitations provided for in this section shall be tolled during any period in which (i) the 376 whereabouts of the child are unknown, (ii) the child has escaped from custody, or (iii) the child has 377 failed to appear pursuant to a court order, or (iv) a report is being prepared pursuant to the written 378 request by the attorney for the Commonwealth in accordance with subsection C of § 16.1-269.1. The 379 limitations also may be extended by the court for a reasonable period of time based upon good cause 380 shown, provided that the basis for such extension is recorded in writing and filed among the papers of 381 the proceedings. For the purposes of this section, good cause includes, but is not limited to, extension of limitations necessary to obtain the presence of a witness to testify regarding the results of scientific 382 383 analyses or examinations and good cause shown by the director of the court services unit completing a 384 report pursuant to subsection C of § 16.1-269.1 that additional time is needed for the completion of the 385 report.