

2020 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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SENATE BILL NO. 768

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules

on January 31, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Barker)

A BILL to require the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene a work group to study expanding the categories of individuals who may conduct evaluations to determine whether a person meets the criteria for temporary detention. Report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall establish a work group to (i) review the current process for conducting evaluations of persons who are subject to emergency custody orders to determine whether they meet the criteria for temporary detention, including any challenges or barriers to timely completion of such evaluations and factors giving rise to delays in completion of such evaluations, and (ii) develop a comprehensive plan to expand the individuals who may conduct evaluations of persons who are subject to emergency custody orders to determine whether they meet the criteria for temporary detention. Such comprehensive plan shall include specific recommendation for legislative or budget actions necessary to implement the plan. The work group shall include representatives of the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, the National Alliance on Mental Illness - Virginia, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia, the Virginia College of Emergency Physicians, the Medical Society of Virginia, and such other stakeholders as the Commissioner may deem appropriate. The work group shall report its findings and conclusions and the comprehensive plan to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare, and Institutions, Senate Committee on Education and Health, and Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century by December 1, 2020.

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