

2020 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

20107795D

SENATE BILL NO. 930

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary

on February 6, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Stuart)

A BILL to establish a work group to evaluate the feasibility of establishing and maintaining a Mental Health Crisis Intervention Hotline.

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

1. § 1. That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall establish a work group composed of the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security or his designee, the Attorney General or his designee, the Directors of the Department of Medical Assistance Services, the Department of Criminal Justice Services, and the Department of Planning and Budget or their designees, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, and such other stakeholders as the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall deem appropriate to evaluate the feasibility of (i) establishing and maintaining a 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week, toll-free Mental Health Crisis Intervention Hotline (the Hotline) to receive anonymous tips regarding individuals suspected to be in need of mental health treatment to facilitate mental health treatment, crisis intervention, and prevention of tragedies and (ii) developing and implementing policies and procedures for referring tips received through the Hotline to state or local law enforcement, as may be appropriate, in a timely manner for follow-up and investigation. Recommendations developed by the work group shall include recommendations for specific legislative, regulatory, and budgetary changes necessary to implement the work group's recommendations. The work group shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and for Courts of Justice and the Senate Committees on Finance and Appropriations and the Judiciary by December 1, 2020.

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