

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to create a stakeholder advisory group on expanding high-speed broadband service in new*
3 *residential and commercial development.*

4 [S 446]

5 Approved

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

7 **1.**§ 1. *The Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) shall convene a*
8 *stakeholder advisory group for the purpose of evaluating local and state policies, procedures, or*
9 *ordinances to facilitate the expansion of high-speed broadband service and associated infrastructure in*
10 *new residential and commercial development.*

11 *With assistance from the Department, the Broadband Advisory Council, and the Commission on*
12 *Local Government, the stakeholder advisory group shall, to the extent possible, compile information*
13 *related to existing local ordinances, development standards, and procedures related to the deployment*
14 *or expansion of high-speed broadband services and associated infrastructure in new residential and*
15 *commercial development. Furthermore, the stakeholder advisory group shall make a recommendation to*
16 *the Department regarding any local ordinances, policies, or procedures that have been effective in*
17 *expanding or deploying high-speed broadband service and associated infrastructure in new residential*
18 *and commercial development.*

19 *The stakeholder advisory group shall also identify any consensus recommendations on changes to*
20 *existing state law that would facilitate the deployment or expansion of broadband service and associated*
21 *infrastructure in new residential and commercial development.*

22 *The stakeholder advisory group shall be composed of representatives from the commercial and*
23 *residential land development and construction industry, local government, high-speed broadband*
24 *providers, and other stakeholders as determined by the Department. The Department shall receive*
25 *technical assistance from the Broadband Advisory Council and the Commission on Local Government.*

26 *The Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the Broadband Advisory Council*
27 *no later than September 30, 2022.*

28 *The stakeholder advisory group established pursuant to this act shall not be a public body as defined*
29 *in § 2.2-3701 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq. of the Code of Virginia),*
30 *but its meetings shall be open to the public with notice provided by the Department of Housing and*
31 *Community Development as provided in subsection C of § 2.2-3707 of the Code of Virginia.*