

LD3685701

SENATE BILL NO. 992

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on General Laws
on February 1, 1995)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Barry)

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.1-1.8 of the Code of Virginia, and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 2.1 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 2.1-795 through 2.1-798, relating to the creation of the Interagency Immigrant and Refugee Policy Council.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.1-1.8 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 2.1 a chapter numbered 50, consisting of sections numbered 2.1-795 through 2.1-797 as follows:

§ 2.1-1.8. (Effective July 1, 1995) Temporary collegial bodies.

There shall be, in addition to such others as may be established by law, the following temporary collegial body established within the executive branch for a specified purpose and specified period of time:

Food and Nutrition, Advisory Commission to the Program on
Immigrant and Refugee Policy Council, Interagency.

CHAPTER 50.

INTERAGENCY IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE POLICY COUNCIL.

§ 2.1-795. Interagency Immigrant and Refugee Policy Council created.

There is hereby created the Interagency Immigrant and Refugee Policy Council for the purpose of collecting and analyzing data for and creating a consistent state policy on the provision of services to refugees and immigrants who reside in the Commonwealth.

§ 2.1-796. Membership.

The Council shall consist of six members as follows: the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Health, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Public Safety, and the Attorney General. The membership shall elect a chairman from among themselves to serve a term of one year.

§ 2.1-797. Duties and responsibilities; annual report to the Governor; advisory committee.

A. The Council shall meet on a regular basis and is charged with the responsibility to:

1. Assess and initiate procedures to work with the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service on the issue of the incarceration of undocumented aliens committed to state and local correctional facilities;

2. Review the responsibilities of sponsors for legal immigrants to determine whether sponsors are fulfilling their financial and social obligations and to develop methods to enhance enforcement of this provision;

3. Gather relevant data to determine the number of undocumented immigrants residing in the Commonwealth, how many are receiving services at state expense, the nature of those services and the resultant expense;

4. Collect and analyze data which can be used to support any action which the administration, the General Assembly or any state agency may take to obtain federal reimbursement for the cost of services to both legal and undocumented immigrants;

5. Gather and review documentation relating to unlawful discrimination against immigrants and refugees.

6. Report to the Governor and General Assembly annually regarding potential program and policy initiatives.

B. To assist in fulfilling its duties and responsibilities, the Council shall appoint an advisory committee consisting of one representative each from (i) the refugee population, (ii) the immigrant population, and (iii) a local provider program or service organization that serves immigrants or refugees. Members of the advisory committee shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed for their necessary and actual expenses incurred in connection with their duties.

§ 2.1-798. Sunset.

The provisions of this chapter shall expire on July 1, 1997.