

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1996 SESSION

CHAPTER 617

An Act to amend and reenact § 2.1-51.17 of the Code of Virginia, relating to duties of the Secretary of Public Safety.

[H 534]

Approved April 5, 1996

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 2.1-51.17 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.1-51.17. Subject to supervision by Governor; powers and duties.

A. The Secretary of Public Safety shall be subject to direction and supervision by the Governor. The agencies assigned to the Secretary shall:

1. Exercise their respective powers and duties in accordance with the general policy established by the Governor or by the Secretary acting on behalf of the Governor;

2. Provide such assistance to the Governor or the Secretary as may be required; and

3. Forward all reports to the Governor through the Secretary.

B. Unless the Governor expressly reserves such power to himself, the Secretary is empowered to:

1. Resolve administrative, jurisdictional, operational, program, or policy conflicts between agencies or officials assigned;

2. Direct the formulation of a comprehensive program budget for the functional area identified in § 2.1-398 encompassing the services of agencies assigned for consideration by the Governor;

3. Hold agency heads accountable for their administrative, fiscal and program actions in the conduct of the respective powers and duties of the agencies;

4. Direct the development of goals, objectives, policies and plans that are necessary to the effective and efficient operation of government;

5. Sign documents on behalf of the Governor which originate with agencies assigned to the Secretary; and

6. Employ such personnel and contract for such consulting services as may be required to perform the powers and duties conferred upon the Secretary by statute or executive order.

C. *The Secretary shall provide annual reports to the Governor and the General Assembly on juvenile offender demographics by offense, age, committing court, previous court contacts of offenders, and, beginning in July 1998, recidivism rates of juveniles committed to agencies within the Secretariat. The annual report shall also include summaries of any juvenile program evaluations completed in the previous year on programs operated by the Departments of Youth and Family Services, Corrections or Criminal Justice Services and whose evaluation was directed by the General Assembly or the Secretary.*