

2002 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE BILL NO. 610

Offered January 17, 2002

A BILL to create a pilot project to develop a standardized Geographic Information System (GIS) model for the purposes of sharing health data.

Patrons—Mims, Potts and Watkins; Delegates: May and Rust

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Whereas, the anthrax and other potential attacks against the people of the United States since September 2001 have stressed the need for regional, state and national cooperation; and

Whereas, regional and local geographic information systems (GIS) databases include, among other things, air-flow mapping, the locations of residential areas, hospitals, potential shelters, transportation alternatives in the event of medical emergencies, water treatment facilities and water sources, bridges, national guard armories, and police and fire stations, as well as current point-of-contact information for these facilities; and

Whereas, sharing this information could enable the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), emergency workers and others to better predict the path of airborne pathogens in the event of a mass release, or, as in the case of the World Trade Center attack, the path of dust and asbestos clouds heading toward or through residential areas; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That the Department of Information Technology shall coordinate the creation of a pilot project to work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop a standardized Geographic Information System (GIS) model for the purposes of sharing health data. The pilot project shall initially involve the Northern Virginia Planning District Commission (NVPDC), Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC), Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), Department of Health and the Geographic Information Network Division of the Department of Technology Planning.*

§ 2. *The NVPDC, RRPDC, HRPDC and other planning district commissions, as appropriate, shall provide staff support to the Department of Information Technology as requested. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department of Information Technology for this pilot project, upon request.*

§ 3. *The Department of Information Technology shall submit an annual written report on the progress of the pilot project, including findings and recommendations, to the Governor and the General Assembly.*

2. That the provisions of this act shall expire on July 1, 2005.

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