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HOUSE BILL NO. 1222

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice
on February 3, 2014)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Watts)

A BILL to require the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to encourage dissemination of information about and provision of training in implementation of evidence-based strategies to prevent and minimize mental health crises.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall encourage the dissemination of information about and provision of training in implementation of evidence-based strategies to prevent and minimize mental health crises for first responders in all jurisdictions. These strategies shall include, to the extent possible, cross-system mapping for all crisis intervention team training of law enforcement, to ensure that a minimum of 25 percent of law-enforcement officers on all shifts are trained in crisis intervention techniques, and mental health first aid training for other first responders and school personnel. The Department shall also disseminate information and provide training regarding (i) the types of information about an individual's health and mental health status and needs that law-enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, and other first responders might need to obtain or attempt to obtain from an individual experiencing a mental health crisis or in need of mental health services; (ii) the types of information related to an individual's health and mental health status and needs that law-enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, and other first responders might need to convey to health care providers at the location to which the individual is transported; (iii) the types of information about an individual experiencing a mental health crisis or in need of mental health services that a health care provider may make available to law-enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, or other first responders; and (iv) rules governing confidentiality of medical and other information made available to or by law-enforcement personnel, emergency medical services personnel, or other first responders.

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

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