

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 52 a chapter numbered 7.5, consisting of a*
3 *section numbered 52-34.13, relating to the Department of State Police; establishment of cold case*
4 *searchable database.*

5 [H 1024]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**
8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 52 a chapter numbered 7.5, consisting**
9 **of a section numbered 52-34.13, as follows:**

10 CHAPTER 7.5.

11 COLD CASE SEARCHABLE DATABASE.

12 § 52-34.13. *Cold case searchable database established.*

13 *A. As used in this section, "cold case" means an investigation into a homicide, missing person, or*
14 *unidentified person case that has remained unsolved for at least five years after the crime occurred, the*
15 *person went missing, or the unidentified body was found, whichever occurred last.*

16 *B. The Superintendent of State Police shall establish and maintain a searchable electronic database*
17 *of cold cases to assist law-enforcement agencies in the development of information leading to the*
18 *identification and arrest of persons who may have committed the crimes or to persons who may have*
19 *relevant information to solve the case. Such database shall be available to the public through the*
20 *Department of State Police official website.*

21 *C. The searchable electronic database shall include (i) the category of cold case and, in the case of*
22 *a homicide or missing person, the name of the victim or missing person, unless disclosure is prohibited*
23 *or restricted by § 19.2-11.2; (ii) the location where the crime was committed, where the person was last*
24 *seen, or where the body was found, if known; (iii) the date and time the crime occurred, the person was*
25 *last seen, or the body was found, if known; (iv) the name and contact information of the investigating*
26 *law-enforcement agency; (v) a brief summary of the crime or case; and (vi) any other information that*
27 *the investigating law-enforcement agency determines is appropriate. The Department of State Police and*
28 *submitting law-enforcement agencies shall have the discretion to withhold such information, in whole or*
29 *in part, from the database (a) as they deem necessary for investigative purposes, protection of privacy,*
30 *or any other lawful reason or (b) upon request of the victim's or missing person's next of kin.*

ENROLLED

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