

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to require the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to convene a*
3 *work group to study expanding the individuals who may conduct evaluations to determine whether a*
4 *person meets the criteria for temporary detention. Report.*

5 [H 1699]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. § 1.** *That the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall establish a work*
9 *group to (i) review the current process for conducting evaluations of persons who are subject to*
10 *emergency custody orders to determine whether they meet the criteria for temporary detention, including*
11 *any challenges or barriers to timely completion of such evaluations and factors giving rise to delays in*
12 *completion of such evaluations, and (ii) develop a comprehensive plan to expand the individuals who*
13 *may conduct effective evaluations of persons who are subject to emergency custody orders to determine*
14 *whether they meet the criteria for temporary detention. The work group shall consider other states'*
15 *experiences in expanding the individuals who may conduct evaluations of persons subject to emergency*
16 *custody orders. Such comprehensive plan shall include specific recommendation for legislative or budget*
17 *actions necessary to implement the plan. The work group shall include representatives of the Virginia*
18 *Association of Community Services Boards, the National Alliance on Mental Illness - Virginia, the*
19 *Virginia Organization of Consumers Asserting Leadership (VOCAL), the Psychiatric Society of Virginia,*
20 *the Virginia College of Emergency Physicians, the Medical Society of Virginia, and such other*
21 *stakeholders as the Commissioner may deem appropriate. The work group shall report its findings and*
22 *conclusions and the comprehensive plan to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on*
23 *Health, Welfare and Institutions, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the Joint*
24 *Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21st Century by December*
25 *1, 2020.*

ENROLLED

HB1699ER