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SENATE BILL NO. 317

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health on January 23, 2020)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Kiggans)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 37.2 a section numbered 37.2-422.1, relating to licensed inpatient nursing services; in-home follow-up care upon discharge.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 37.2 a section numbered 37.2-422.1 as follows:

§ 37.2-422.1. In-home follow-up nursing services.

The Board shall promulgate regulations that require each provider of inpatient psychiatric services to develop and implement a policy for connecting patients who will be discharged from inpatient psychiatric care with in-home follow-up nursing services as available, including assistance with medication and medication management, individual and family support services, and connections to community-based mental health services, upon discharge. Such policy may include provisions for the delivery of in-home follow-up nursing services by a licensed home care organization, certified home health agency, community services board, or behavioral health authority serving the locality in which the patient resides or other appropriate service provider. Such policy shall, to the greatest extent possible, allow for patient choice in the selection of an in-home follow-up nursing services provider.