

## 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  
6 Approved

[S 768]

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

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