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HB2036H1

21103535D **HOUSE BILL NO. 2036**

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE (Proposed by the House Committee on Labor and Commerce on January 26, 2021)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Tran)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 60.2 a section numbered 60.2-121.1, relating to Virginia Employment Commission; communications with parties; report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 60.2 a section numbered 60.2-121.1 as follows:

§ 60.2-121.1. Communications with parties.

In any action commenced under this title, the Commission may, if the party elects, send notices and other communications to such party through email or other electronic means. The Commission shall allow any party to change its election regarding receiving communications through electronic means. If an electronic notice is not successfully transmitted through electronic means, the Commission shall send a new notice by first-class mail to the party's alternative address on record.

2. That the Virginia Employment Commission (Commission) shall report to the Commission on Unemployment Compensation and the Chairs of the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor (i) the number of unemployment insurance claimants who elect to receive their communications by email or other electronic means pursuant to § 60.2-121.1 of the Code of Virginia, as created by this act, and (ii) how such use of electronic communications impacts the Commission's operations no later than December 31, 2022.