

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a plan to address*
3 *broadband affordability.*

4
5 Approved

[S 716]

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

7 **1.** § 1. *The Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) shall develop a plan,*
8 *to be known as the Commonwealth Digital Affordability and Cost Effectiveness Plan (the Plan), to*
9 *access federal funding under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58). In order*
10 *to achieve this goal, the Department shall apply for funding through a planning grant from the National*
11 *Telecommunications and Information Administration. The Plan shall include (i) an overview of options*
12 *for affordable broadband connectivity in the Commonwealth; (ii) recommendations on how best to*
13 *leverage federal grants addressing broadband affordability; (iii) best practices for establishing a*
14 *broadband affordability program, taking into account existing federal funds and programs; and (iv)*
15 *recommendations for public outreach, with consideration of the report submitted by the Department of*
16 *Social Services as required in Item 359 L of Chapter 552 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special*
17 *Session I. The Department shall report the Plan to the Governor and the General Assembly by*
18 *December 1, 2022.*

ENROLLED

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