

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services to convene a workgroup to*
3 *study and develop recommendations for implementing a statewide strategic plan to make Virginia the*
4 *best state for veterans; report.*

5 [H 1759]

6 Approved

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

8 1. § 1. That the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services shall convene a workgroup to
9 study and develop recommendations for implementing a statewide strategic plan to make Virginia the
10 best state for veterans. The workgroup shall consist of 10 members to be appointed as follows: the
11 Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs or his designee; the Commissioner of the Department of
12 Veterans Services or his designee; the Adjutant General of the Virginia National Guard or his designee;
13 one member from the Board of Veterans Services; one additional member from the Joint Leadership
14 Council of Veterans Service Organizations; two current members of the General Assembly who
15 previously served as members of the General Assembly Military and Veterans Caucus, one to be
16 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and one to be appointed by the Chair of the Senate
17 Committee on Rules; two members who previously served as officers of the General Assembly Military
18 and Veterans Caucus, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates and one to be
19 appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules; and one member of a veterans organization
20 focused on issues related to women veterans.

21 The responsibilities of the workgroup shall include (i) developing a statewide strategic plan that will
22 guide legislation and budget decisions for the next five years; (ii) determining and identifying key
23 performance indicators, quantifiable factors that can be compared with those of other states in
24 determining quality of life for veterans in such states; (iii) assessing Virginia's current key performance
25 indicators against those of other states; (iv) identifying legislative and budgetary recommendations; and
26 (v) creating a scorecard of Virginia's key performance indicators to be presented to the General
27 Assembly Military and Veterans Caucus at the first meeting of each regular session.

28 The Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services or his designee shall, as applicable, serve
29 as chairman of the workgroup. As chairman, he shall be responsible for convening meetings, taking and
30 publishing minutes, and reporting the findings and recommendations of the workgroup in a report to the
31 Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on
32 General Laws and Technology. The workgroup shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2023 and
33 submit such report by the first day of the 2024 regular session.

ENROLLED

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