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HOUSE BILL NO. 2008

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A BILL to require the Department of Health to develop recommendations for reducing the occurrence and impact of tick-borne diseases in the Commonwealth.

Patrons—Adams, L.R. and Edmunds

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. *That the Department of Health shall convene a work group composed of representatives of health care providers, public health experts, organizations representing individuals living with or impacted by tick-borne diseases, and other appropriate stakeholders to study and make recommendations for reducing the occurrence and impact of tick-borne diseases in the Commonwealth. The work group's report shall include recommendations for (i) increasing public awareness of tick-borne diseases and strategies for preventing tick-borne diseases, (ii) educating health care providers and the public about the importance of and need for early diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases, (iii) improving public health surveillance and data collection related to tick-borne diseases, and (iv) developing and implementing strategies to reduce tick populations and reduce the risk of exposure to and transmission of tick-borne diseases in the Commonwealth. The work group shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2023.*

INTRODUCED

HB2008