

# 2024 SESSION

## HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

24109023D

### HOUSE BILL NO. 736

#### AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Joint Conference Committee  
on March 8, 2024)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Sewell)

A BILL to direct the Department of Law's Division of Consumer Counsel to convene a workgroup to examine the practice of persons receiving compensation for providing certain services regarding veterans' benefits matters.

#### Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. The Department of Law's Division of Consumer Counsel (the Division) shall convene a work group to examine and make recommendations regarding the practice of persons receiving compensation for preparing, presenting, prosecuting, advising, consulting, or assisting any individual regarding any veterans' benefits matter before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Department of Defense, or the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. The work group shall consist of at least one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, at least one member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, representatives from the Division and the Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs, a representative from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a representative of the American Legion, and a person providing such services for compensation. The work group shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by November 1, 2024.

As used in this act, "veterans' benefits matter" means the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of any claim affecting any person who has filed or expressed an intent to file a claim for any benefit, program, service, commodity, function, or status that is offered under the laws and regulations administered by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the Virginia Department of Veterans Services pertaining to veterans, their dependents, their survivors, and any other individual eligible for such benefits.

HOUSE  
SUBSTITUTE

HB736H2