

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act requiring the Board of Social Services, the Department of Social Services, and the Department*
3 *of Health to study the quality, affordability, and accessibility of licensed and unlicensed child day*
4 *care programs in the Commonwealth.*

5 [S 595]

6 Approved

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

8 1. § 1. *That the State Board of Social Services, in cooperation with the Department of Social Services,*
9 *the Health Department, and other state agencies as appropriate, shall study the quality, affordability,*
10 *and accessibility of licensed and unlicensed child day care programs in the Commonwealth.*

11 A. *The study shall (i) examine quality of care mechanisms currently in place for child day care*
12 *programs and providers, including, but not limited to, state and federal statutes and regulations and*
13 *review by private accrediting bodies; (ii) assess the sufficiency of these mechanisms for ensuring quality*
14 *and providing parents with a means of having their inquiries and complaints addressed; (iii) examine*
15 *how the Department of Social Services and the Department of Health coordinate their roles for ensuring*
16 *quality of child care and child day care in a manner which minimizes duplication of resources; and (iv)*
17 *identify the appropriate role of the Department of Social Services and any other appropriate state*
18 *agencies in monitoring the quality, affordability, and accessibility of child day care programs.*

19 B. *The study also shall consider whether changes in existing law or regulations are warranted with*
20 *respect to quality, health, and safety standards for all child day care programs.*

21 C. *The Board of Social Services shall submit an interim report by October 1, 1998, and a final*
22 *report by October 1, 1999, to the Governor, the Commission on Early Childhood and Child Day Care*
23 *Programs, and the General Assembly which, in addition to the matters to be reported on as set forth*
24 *above, (i) recommends the appropriate role of the Commonwealth in monitoring and improving the*
25 *quality, affordability and accessibility of care in child day care programs; (ii) recommends the*
26 *Commonwealth's role in providing consumer information on child day care issues; and (iii) assesses the*
27 *licensing and registration functions for individual and institutional child day care providers currently*
28 *performed by the Department of Social Services.*

ENROLLED

SB595ER