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**HOUSE BILL NO. 639**

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 11, 2022

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 30-222 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Commission on Unemployment Compensation; subcommittee established.*

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 Patron—Carr
 

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 Committee Referral Pending
 

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**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 30-222 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 30-222. Powers and duties of the Commission; subcommittee established.**

A. The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Evaluate the impact of existing statutes and proposed legislation on unemployment compensation and the Unemployment Trust Fund;

2. Assess the Commonwealth's unemployment compensation programs and examine ways to enhance effectiveness;

3. Monitor the current status and long-term projections for the Unemployment Trust Fund; and

4. Report annually its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor.

B. *Within the Commission there shall be established a subcommittee on unemployment insurance that shall be responsible for monitoring the Virginia Employment Commission's management of the Commonwealth's unemployment insurance system. The subcommittee shall be responsible for monitoring the Virginia Employment Commission's following operations:*

1. *Key performance metrics related to unemployment insurance backlogs;*2. *Efforts to identify, prevent, and recover incorrect unemployment insurance benefit payments, including fraudulent payments;*3. *Modernization of the unemployment insurance information technology system and subsequent efforts to improve functionality;*4. *Expenditures of state funds appropriated for unemployment insurance administration; and*

5. *Implementation of recommendations from the 2021 Operations and Performance of the Virginia Employment Commission report by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission.*

C. *The subcommittee established in subsection B shall include (i) at least one employee stakeholder representative, (ii) at least one employer representative, (iii) at least one member of the Commission on Unemployment Compensation, and (iv) at least one member from each of the following committees: the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Labor and Commerce, the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations.*

D. *The subcommittee established in subsection B shall meet at least once each quarter from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025, and shall report at least annually, beginning on December 1, 2022, to the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Labor and Commerce, the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations.*

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