

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to establish a work*
3 *group to study and make recommendations regarding the cases in which the Office of the Chief*
4 *Medical Examiner shall conduct an investigation of the death of a person who dies while receiving*
5 *services from a program licensed by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental*
6 *Services.*

7 [H 659]

8 Approved

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

10 **1. § 1.** *The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Department) shall*
11 *establish a work group, which shall include the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental*
12 *Services, the Director of the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Commissioner of Social*
13 *Services, the State Registrar of Vital Records, and the Chief Medical Examiner, or their designees, and*
14 *representatives of the disAbility Law Center of Virginia, the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare*
15 *Association, the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, providers of behavioral health*
16 *services licensed by the Department, law-enforcement agencies, emergency medical services providers,*
17 *community stakeholders such as social workers, community mental health providers, and case managers,*
18 *and other appropriate agency staff and other stakeholders, to study and make recommendations*
19 *regarding appropriate investigations, including recommendations regarding when autopsies may be*
20 *appropriate, of the deaths of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities who are residents*
21 *of the Commonwealth and who die while receiving services from a program licensed by the Department.*
22 *The work group shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the*
23 *House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and*
24 *Health by November 1, 2022.*

ENROLLED

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