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**HOUSE BILL NO. 939**

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 12, 2022

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-42.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Commissioner of Health; administration and dispensing of necessary drugs and devices during public health emergency.*

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Patron—Robinson

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Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 32.1-42.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 32.1-42.1. Administration and dispensing of necessary drugs and devices during a declared disaster or emergency.**

The Commissioner, pursuant to § 54.1-3408, may authorize persons who are not authorized by law to administer or dispense drugs or devices to administer or dispense all necessary drugs or devices in accordance with protocols established by the Commissioner when (i) the Governor has declared a disaster or a state of emergency or, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services has issued a declaration of an actual or potential bioterrorism incident or other actual or potential public health emergency, *or when the Board has made an emergency order pursuant to § 32.1-13 for the purpose of suppressing nuisances dangerous to the public health and communicable, contagious, and infectious diseases and other dangers to the public life and health*; (ii) it is necessary to permit the provision of needed drugs or devices; and (iii) such persons have received the training necessary to safely administer or dispense the needed drugs or devices. Such persons shall administer or dispense all drugs or devices under the direction, control, and supervision of the Commissioner. For purposes of this section, "administer," "device," "dispense," and "drug" shall have the same meaning as provided in § 54.1-3401. The Commissioner shall develop protocols, in consultation with the Department of Health Professions, that address the required training of such persons and procedures for such persons to use in administering or dispensing drugs or devices.

INTRODUCED

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