

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 594
 2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
 3 (Proposed by the House Committee on Health and Human Services
 4 on _____)
 5 (Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Sickles)

6 A BILL to direct the Department of Medical Assistance Services to convene a work group to design a
 7 community health worker services benefit for beneficiaries enrolled in Medicaid or in the
 8 Children's Health Insurance Program.

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

10 1. § 1. That the Department of Medical Assistance Services (the Department) shall convene a work group
 11 to design a community health worker services benefit for beneficiaries enrolled in Medicaid or in the
 12 Children's Health Insurance Program. The work group shall include representatives from the Institute for
 13 Public Health Innovation, the Virginia Community Health Worker Association, Virginia Health Catalyst,
 14 the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association, the Virginia Department of Health, and other
 15 organizations at the Department's discretion.

16 The work group shall consider (i) the reimbursement methodology for the benefit, (ii) the services
 17 to be included in the benefit, (iii) the educational and training requirements community health workers
 18 must possess to furnish the benefit, and (iv) any related subjects as determined by the Department and at
 19 the Department's discretion. The work group shall complete its work and submit a report to the Chairs of
 20 the House Committees on Appropriations and Health and Human Services and the Senate Committees on
 21 Finance and Appropriations and Education and Health by December 1, 2024. The report shall include the
 22 estimated cost of the benefit and any additional legislative authority required to implement the benefit.
 23 Following the completion of the work group, if sufficient authority and funding are provided by the
 24 General Assembly, the Department shall initiate the federal state plan amendment process to seek federal
 25 approval for a Medicaid community health worker services benefit. Upon approval of the state plan

26 amendment by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Department shall implement this
27 change prior to completion of any regulatory process.

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