

HOUSE BILL NO. 1305

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions
on January 27, 2022)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Williams)

A BILL to allow the Patrick County Board of Supervisors to enter into a contract for an investigation of the feasibility of reopening the Pioneer Community Hospital of Patrick County, in whole or in part, or establishing alternative locations in Patrick County and surrounding localities at which necessary health care services may be provided.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Patrick County Board of Supervisors may enter into a contract to investigate the feasibility of reopening the Pioneer Community Hospital of Patrick County, formerly known as the R.J. Reynolds Patrick County Memorial Hospital, to provide health care services, including emergency medical and rural health care services, necessary to meet the needs of residents of Patrick County and the surrounding localities. In conducting its investigation, the entity with which the Patrick County Board of Supervisors has entered into a contract shall evaluate the feasibility of (i) fully reopening the Pioneer Community Hospital utilizing the existing structure in its entirety to provide necessary health care services, including emergency medical and rural health care services, and (ii) utilizing a portion of the existing structure, which may include the recently renovated emergency department, to provide telemedicine services, emergency medical services including triage and transport services, imaging services, or other health care services necessary to meet the needs of residents of Patrick County and surrounding localities, either in connection with an existing local or regional hospital provider or as a stand-alone facility. Any investigation undertaken pursuant to this act shall be complete by October 1, 2023.

§ 2. The contract authorized pursuant to § 1 may include a provision that if the entity with which the Patrick County Board of Supervisors has entered into such contract determines that it is not feasible to use any portion of the structure of the Pioneer Community Hospital to provide medical services

27 necessary to meet the needs of residents of Patrick County and surrounding localities, the entity shall
28 identify alternative locations in Patrick County and the surrounding localities at which health care services,
29 including emergency medical and rural health care services, necessary to meet the needs of residents of
30 Patrick County and surrounding localities can feasibly be offered.

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