

1 SENATE BILL NO. 574

2 AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

3 (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules

4 on \_\_\_\_\_)

5 (Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Deeds)

6 A BILL to direct the Behavioral Health Commission to study how to effectively align current civil  
7 admissions laws and processes with new behavioral health and crisis response services and  
8 resources in the Commonwealth; report.

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

10 1. § 1. That the Behavioral Health Commission shall study how to effectively align current civil  
11 admissions laws and processes, including those processes related to licensing, regulations, training, and  
12 reimbursement that may need to change to better achieve alignment, with new behavioral health and crisis  
13 response services and resources in the Commonwealth. In conducting its work, the Behavioral Health  
14 Commission shall convene a work group including (i) mental health consumers; (ii) representatives from:  
15 (a) public and private behavioral health providers; (b) law-enforcement agencies, including the Virginia  
16 Sheriffs' Association and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police; (c) advocacy groups such as the  
17 disAbility Law Center of Virginia; (d) academic centers such as the Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public  
18 Policy at the University of Virginia; (e) community services boards; (f) executive branch agencies such  
19 as the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Department of Behavioral Health and  
20 Developmental Services; and (g) the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia;  
21 and (iii) the Governor of Virginia or his designee. The Behavioral Health Commission shall make  
22 recommendations for any statutory, regulatory, licensing, training, and reimbursement changes related to  
23 Virginia's current civil admissions process that may be needed to fully leverage crisis services and shall  
24 report such recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, the Senate  
25 Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services, and the House Committee for Courts of Justice by July  
26 1, 2025.

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