



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

B. Cameron Webb, MD, JD  
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health  
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### **Declaration of Ebola Disease as a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat for Virginia**

Whereas, as of May 21, 2026, the health ministries of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda reported 51 laboratory-confirmed cases, 575 suspected cases, and 148 suspected deaths of Bundibugyo strain of Ebola Disease; and

Whereas, the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola Disease has demonstrated a death rate ranging from 25-50%; and

Whereas, there are currently no approved vaccines or antiviral treatments for the Bundibugyo strain of Ebola Virus Disease, and treatment is limited to supportive care; and

Whereas, Ebola Disease is readily transmissible, with documented spread among healthcare workers;

Whereas, as of May 18, 2026, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) implemented enhanced travel screening, entry restrictions and public health measures to prevent Ebola disease from entering the United States, and

Whereas, travelers from outbreak areas of concern will be routed through specific U.S. airports, including Washington Dulles International Airport, with some travelers having Virginia as a final destination; and

Whereas, as of May 21, 2026, the Port Health Station at Dulles International Airport began enhanced screening of U.S. Citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents arriving from outbreak areas of concern; and

Whereas, the US Government has issued interim guidance for public health assessment and management of travelers arriving from the affected countries during the 2026 Ebola Outbreak in DRC and Uganda and recommendations for the public health management of travelers with high-risk exposures, including recommendations to quarantine persons with high-risk exposures; and

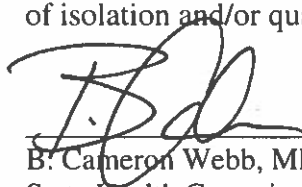
Whereas, these features of virulence, transmissibility, lack of vaccine or specific treatment, and potential magnitude of the effect on the health and welfare of the public meet the criteria for Exceptional Circumstances as defined in 12VAC-5-90-10; and

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Whereas isolation and quarantine can be necessary and effective public health measures to control the spread of Ebola Disease;

I hereby declare that Ebola Disease is considered a Communicable Disease of Public Health Threat. Therefore, the provisions of §32.1-48.05 et seq. of the *Code of Virginia* may be invoked for public health investigations of persons known or suspected of being exposed to Ebola Disease or known or suspected of being infected with Ebola disease, such that I may issue orders of isolation and/or quarantine as necessary and appropriate to control this disease in Virginia.



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B. Cameron Webb, MD, JD  
State Health Commissioner

5/26/26

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Date