**2022 OEMS Legislative Report**

**January 14, 2022**

[**HB 22**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB22)**Medical mandates; each adult has a fundamental right to be free from mandates.**

*Chief patron:*Walker

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-127.1:06, relating to fundamental right to be free from medical mandates.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Fundamental right to be free from medical mandates.** Declares that, except as otherwise provided by law, each adult has a fundamental right to be free from medical mandates of the Commonwealth or any locality, private employer, health care entity or provider, or provider of public accommodations. The bill defines "medical mandate" as any affirmative requirement by the Commonwealth or any locality, private employer, health care entity or provider, or provider of public accommodations for an individual to undergo or participate in a health-related test, procedure, tracking or monitoring program, or bodily insertion or injection of any drug or the wearing of any medical equipment or apparel. The bill provides that it shall be no less a medical mandate for such entities to condition an individual's receipt of otherwise ordinary services, benefits, or employment upon the performance or acquiescence of undergoing or participating in a health-related test, procedure, tracking or monitoring program, or bodily insertion or injection of any drug or the wearing of any medical equipment or apparel. The bill sets out exceptions, including protocols in health care facilities and food handling operations and valid orders of quarantine or isolation.

12/27/21 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100433D
12/27/21 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 27**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB27)**COVID-19 vaccination status; mandatory COVID-19 vaccination prohibited, discrimination prohibited.**

*Chief patron:*Anderson

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-2901.1, 2.2-3004, 15.2-1500.1, 15.2-1507, 15.2-1604, 22.1-271.2, 22.1-271.4, 22.1-289.031, 22.1-295.2, 22.1-306, 23.1-800, 32.1-43, 32.1-47, 32.1-47.1, 32.1-48, 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, and 63.2-603 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 1 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-15.2, by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-48.002, by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 37.2 a section numbered 37.2-205, by adding in Chapter 24 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-2409.6, and by adding in Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 63.2 a section numbered 63.2-221.1, relating to COVID-19 vaccination status; mandatory COVID-19 vaccination prohibited; discrimination prohibited.

*Summary as introduced:*
**COVID-19 vaccination status; mandatory COVID-19 vaccination prohibited; discrimination prohibited.** Prohibits the State Health Commissioner and the Board of Health, the Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, the Department of Health Professions and any regulatory board therein, and the Department of Social Services from requiring any person to undergo vaccination for COVID-19 and prohibits discrimination based on a person's COVID-19 vaccination status with regard to education or public employment and in numerous other contexts.

12/29/21 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100819D
12/29/21 House: Committee Referral Pending
01/13/22 House: Impact statement from DPB (HB27)

[**HB 57**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB57)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Anderson

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor pursuant to his powers under the Emergency Services and Disaster Law to no more than 45 days from the date of issuance. The bill provides that if the General Assembly does not take any action on the rule, regulation, or order within the 45 days during which the rule, regulation, or order is effective, the Governor shall thereafter be prohibited from issuing the same or a similar rule, regulation, or order relating to the same emergency. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next adjournment of the regular session of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/03/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100810D
01/03/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 80**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB80)**Healthcare Regulatory Sandbox Program; established, report, sunset date.**

*Chief patron:*Davis

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 32.1 a chapter numbered 21, consisting of sections numbered 32.1-376 through 32.1-383, relating to the Healthcare Regulatory Sandbox Program.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Healthcare Regulatory Sandbox Program; established.** Requires the Department of Health to establish the Healthcare Regulatory Sandbox Program to enable a person to obtain limited access to the market in the Commonwealth to temporarily test an innovative healthcare product or service on a limited basis without otherwise being licensed or authorized to act under the laws of the Commonwealth. Under the Program, an applicant requests the waiver of certain laws, regulations, or other requirements for a 24-month testing period, with an option to request an additional six-month testing period. The bill provides application requirements, consumer protections, procedures for exiting the Program or requesting an extension, and recordkeeping and reporting requirements. The bill requires the Department to provide an annual report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health that provides information regarding each Program participant and that provides recommendations regarding the effectiveness of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2027.

01/04/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101894D
01/04/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 81**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB81)**Statewide Telehealth Plan; Bd. of Health to consult various groups in developing and maintaining.**

*Chief patron:*Kilgore

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-122.03:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; Virginia Telehealth Network.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Board of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; Virginia Telehealth Network.** Requires the Board of Health to consult with the Virginia Telehealth Network in developing and maintaining the Statewide Telehealth Plan. The bill requires the Board of Health to leverage the expertise of the Virginia Telehealth Network, or another Virginia-based nongovernmental organization focused on telehealth if the Virginia Telehealth Network is no longer in existence, to (i) provide direct consultation to any advisory groups and groups tasked by the Board with implementation and data collection, (ii) track implementation of the Statewide Telehealth Plan, and (iii) facilitate changes to the Statewide Telehealth Plan as accepted medical practices and technologies evolve.

01/05/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100950D
01/05/22 House: Committee Referral Pending
01/13/22 House: Impact statement from DPB (HB81)

[**HB 87**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB87)**Virginia Pandemic Response and Preparedness Council; established, report, sunset date.**

*Chief patron:*Ware

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-2101 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 26 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 38, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2699.16, 2.2-2699.17, and 2.2-2699.18, relating to Virginia Pandemic Response and Preparedness Council; report; sunset.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Pandemic Response and Preparedness Council; report; sunset.** Establishes the Virginia Pandemic Response and Preparedness Council to examine existing laws in the Commonwealth and develop recommendations regarding the pandemic response and future needs of the Governor, the General Assembly, local governments, public and private health care systems, health districts, the judicial system, K-12 and higher education systems, and the business regulatory system. The bill requires the Council to submit an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2024.

01/06/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101896D
01/06/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 114**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB114)**Volunteer firefighters and emergency personnel; special lifetime hunting and fishing licenses.**

*Chief patron:*March

A BILL to amend and reenact § 29.1-302.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to special lifetime hunting and fishing licenses; volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Special lifetime hunting and fishing licenses; volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel.** Qualifies volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel who have completed three consecutive years of service to obtain basic resident lifetime hunting and fishing licenses without any fee. The applicant is required to provide proof of the three years of consecutive service when applying.

01/07/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101269D
01/07/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 123**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB123)**Firefighting, emerg. medical services, or law-enforcement equipment & vehicles; destroying, penalty.**

*Chief patron:*Wyatt

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-151.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to destroying, removing, or tampering with firefighting or emergency medical services equipment or law-enforcement vehicles and equipment; penalty.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Destroying or tampering with firefighting or emergency medical services equipment or law-enforcement vehicles and equipment; penalty.** Increases from a Class 1 misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony the penalty for injuring, destroying, removing, or tampering with any firefighting equipment or apparatus, emergency medical services vehicle, or law-enforcement vehicle or equipment. The bill also adds to this prohibition such interference with any other equipment or apparatus used by emergency medical services personnel or law-enforcement officers.

01/07/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101552D
01/07/22 House: Committee Referral Pending
01/11/22 House: Impact statement from VCSC (HB123)
01/13/22 House: Impact statement from DPB (HB123)

[**HB 131**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB131)**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.**

*Chief patron:*Cherry

A BILL to amend and reenact § 51.1-138 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.** Adds 911 dispatchers to the list of local employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service. Under current law, localities may provide such benefits to first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and certain other hazardous duty positions. The bill provides that such benefits would be available only to dispatchers hired starting on or after January 1, 2022.

01/07/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101275D
01/07/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 135**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB135)**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation of person when transfer of custody.**

*Chief patron:*Cherry

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 37.2-808 and 37.2-810 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.** Provides that, in cases in which transportation of a person subject to an emergency custody order or temporary detention order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and that the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as custody of the person is transferred to the community services board or its designee that is responsible for conducting the evaluation or the temporary detention facility, as is appropriate. The bill also adds employees of and persons providing services pursuant to a contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to the list of individuals who may serve as alternative transportation providers.

01/07/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102457D
01/07/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 151**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB151)**Emergency laws; limits powers and duties of Governor, executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*March

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency laws; powers and duties of Governor; executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency laws; powers and duties of Governor; executive orders.** Limits the Governor's powers as the Director of Emergency Management by requiring that emergency rules, regulations, and executive orders be objectively necessary and required to control, restrict, allocate, or regulate the use, sale, production, and distribution of food, fuel, clothing and other commodities, materials, goods, services, and resources under any state or federal emergency services programs, rather than necessary in the Governor's judgment. The bill also prohibits an emergency executive order from establishing any moratoriums on the payment of rent to landlords in the Commonwealth unless pursuant to a confirmed order of quarantine or isolation. Finally, the bill limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor to no more than 45 days from the date of issuance and provides that if the General Assembly does not take any action on the rule, regulation, or order within the 45 days during which the rule, regulation, or order is effective, the Governor shall thereafter be prohibited from issuing the same or a similar rule, regulation, or order relating to the same emergency. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next regular session of the General Assembly.

01/09/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101549D
01/09/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 157**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB157)**Public health emergency; emergency orders and regulations, limitations.**

*Chief patron:*Byron

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-13, 32.1-20, 35.1-10, and 40.1-22 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-38.1, relating to public health emergency; emergency orders and regulations; limitations.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Public health emergency; emergency orders and regulations; limitations.** Provides that any emergency order or regulation adopted by the Board of Health shall be valid for no more than 45 days and that such order may be extended by the Board for a subsequent period of 45 days, provided that the Board provides notice and receives public comment on the order or regulation proposed to be extended, but that in no case shall such emergency order or regulation be valid for more than 18 months from the effective date of the initial order or regulation. The bill also provides that in any case in which the Commissioner of Health exercises the authority of the Board to enact an emergency order or regulation, such order or regulation shall be valid for no more than 45 days from the effective date of the order or regulation unless the Board adopts an order or regulation to such effect.

The bill also limits the duration of an emergency temporary standard adopted by the Safety and Health Codes Board to 45 days and provides for an extension of such emergency temporary standard for a subsequent period of 45 days, provided that the Board provides notice and receives public comment on the emergency temporary standard proposed to be extended. However, no emergency temporary order shall be valid for a period of more than six months.

01/09/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102279D
01/09/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 159**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB159)**Emergency custody and temporary detention orders; transportation of minor, acceptance of custody.**

*Chief patron:*Byron

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 16.1-340, 16.1-340.1, 37.2-808, 37.2-809, and 37.2-829 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention orders; custody.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency custody and temporary detention orders; custody.** Requires a facility or location to which a minor or adult who is subject to an emergency custody or temporary detention order is transported to accept custody of the minor or adult upon completion of transportation and arrival of the minor or adult at the facility and specifies that the primary law-enforcement agency shall provide transportation of a person who is involved in the involuntary commitment process, rather than a sheriff, as provided under current law .

01/09/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103519D
01/09/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 163**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB163)**Emergency custody and temporary detention; governing transportation & custody of minors and adults.**

*Chief patron:*Ransone

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 16.1-340, 16.1-340.1, 16.1-340.1:1, 16.1-340.2, 37.2-808, 37.2-809, 37.2-809.1, 37.2-810, 37.2-829, and 37.2-1104 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation and custody.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation and custody.** Amends numerous sections governing emergency custody and temporary detention of minors and adults to clarify duties of law-enforcement agencies and mental health facilities with regard to custody. The bill requires facilities to take custody of a minor or person who is the subject of an emergency custody order or temporary detention order immediately upon completion of transportation and arrival of the minor or person at the facility; specifies that if a facility does not take custody of a minor or person immediately upon completion of transportation and arrival at the facility, the order is void and the minor or person shall be released; provides that emergency custody orders shall not be extended; and makes other changes to clarify the role and obligations of law enforcement in the emergency custody and temporary detention process.

01/10/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103592D
01/10/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 183**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB183)**Governor; powers and duties, limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Marshall

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to powers and duties of Governor; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Powers and duties of Governor; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive rule, regulation, or order issued by the Governor to the completion of the Governor's term in office. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next adjournment of the regular session of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/10/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102469D
01/10/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 191**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB191)**Health Workforce Development; creates position of Special Advisor to the Governor.**

*Chief patron:*Hodges

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-122.7 and 32.1-122.7:2 and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 2.2 a chapter numbered 4.5, consisting of a section numbered 2.2-450, and by adding a section numbered 32.1-122.7:3, relating to health workforce development; Special Advisor to the Governor for Health Workforce Development; Virginia Health Workforce Development Fund.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Health workforce development;** Special Advisor to the Governor for Health Workforce Development;**Virginia Health Workforce Development Fund.** Creates the position of Special Advisor to the Governor for Health Workforce Development (the Special Advisor) in the Office of the Governor; directs the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority to collaborate with the Special Advisor, employers of health and health science professionals, and institutions that provide education and training for health and health science professionals to better align education and training initiatives with evolving workforce needs; directs the Authority to coordinate with and seek opportunities to expand existing workforce development initiatives in the Commonwealth and partner with an institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to facilitate the sharing of information and resources and strengthen efforts to develop the health workforce in the Commonwealth; creates the Virginia Health Workforce Development Fund to support the work of the Authority and provide grants to regional health and health science workforce development initiatives; and directs the Authority to establish a process for the issuance of grants to regional health and health science workforce development initiatives.

01/10/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101721D
01/10/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 208**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB208)**Regulatory Innovation, Department of and Virginia Regulatory Sandbox Program; created, report.**

*Chief patron:*Webert

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-3705.7 and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 2.2 a chapter numbered 20.2, containing articles numbered 1 and 2, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2035 through  2.2-2044, relating to creation of Department of Regulatory Innovation; Virginia Regulatory Sandbox Program.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Department of Regulatory Innovation; Virginia Regulatory Sandbox Program; created.** Creates the Department of Regulatory Innovation to oversee the Virginia Regulatory Sandbox Program, also created by the bill, which allows an individual or business to demonstrate a product, production method, or service under a waiver or suspension of one or more state laws or regulations. The bill sets out the process by which an individual or business may apply for participation in the Program, the role of the Department in reviewing such applications for approval or denial, and the requirements for participation in the Program, including provisions related to consumer protection.

01/10/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101977D
01/10/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 229**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB229)**VDH; directed to collect and analyze information regarding social determinants of health.**

*Chief patron:*Coyner

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 1 of Title 32 a section numbered 32.1-23.5, relating to Department of Health; social determinants of health.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Department of Health; social determinants of health.**Directs the Department of Health to collect and analyze information regarding social determinants of health, defined in the bill, and their impact on health risks and health outcomes of residents of the Commonwealth, and to make information regarding social determinants of health, their impact on health, and strategies for addressing social determinants of health to improve health outcomes available to the public on its website.

01/10/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101594D
01/10/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 264**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB264)**Public health emergency; out-of-state licensees, deemed licensure.**

*Chief patron:*Head

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2901, 54.1-2904, 54.1-2951.1, 54.1-2952.1, 54.1-2956.01, and 54.1-3011 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 54.1-2927.1 and 54.1-3011.02, relating to public health emergency; out-of-state licenses; deemed licensure.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Public health emergency; out-of-state licensees; deemed licensure.** Provides that when the Board of Health has entered an emergency order for the purpose of suppressing nuisances dangerous to the public health or communicable, contagious or infectious diseases or other dangers to the public life and health, a practitioner of a profession regulated by the Board of Medicine who is licensed in another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory or possession and who is in good standing with the applicable regulatory agency in that state, the District of Columbia, or that United States territory or possession shall not be prevented or prohibited from engaging in the practice of that profession in the Commonwealth with a patient located in the Commonwealth when (i) such practice is for the purpose of providing continuity of care through the use of telemedicine services and (ii) the patient is a current patient of the practitioner with whom the practitioner has previously established a practitioner-patient relationship.

The bill also provides that when the Board of Health has entered an emergency order for the purpose of suppressing nuisances dangerous to the public health or communicable, contagious or infectious diseases or other dangers to the public life and health, individuals licensed or certified to practice medicine, osteopathic medicine, or podiatry or as a physician assistant, respiratory therapist, advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or nurse aide by another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory or possession shall be deemed to be licensed or certified to practice in the Commonwealth for a period of 30 days when certain criteria are met.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103993D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 283**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB283)**Human trafficking; training for law-enforcement personnel.**

*Chief patron:*Brewer

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9.1-102 of the Code of Virginia, relating to human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.** Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish training standards for law-enforcement personnel regarding the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102365D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 302**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB302)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Freitas

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**Provides that no rule, regulation, or order issued declaring a state of emergency may remain effective for more than seven days without approval of two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly. The bill also provides that no rule, regulation, or order issued declaring a state of emergency may remain effective for more than 30 days without the approval of at least two-thirds of each house of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102517D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 366**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB366)**Assault and battery; penalties when committed against certain persons.**

*Chief patron:*Watts

A BILL to amend and reenact § 18.2-57 of the Code of Virginia, relating to assault and battery; penalties.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Assault and battery; penalties.**Provides that a simple assault or an assault and battery committed against a judge, magistrate, law-enforcement officer, correctional officer, person directly involved in the care, treatment, or supervision of inmates, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter or emergency medical services personnel by a juvenile who has not been previously convicted of or proceeded against informally or adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be a felony if committed by an adult is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor. Currently, any such offense is a punishable as a Class 6 felony, with a mandatory minimum term of confinement of six months. The bill also provides that any person charged with such offense who has been diagnosed by a psychiatrist or clinical psychologist with a mental illness, developmental disability, or intellectual disability and the violation was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the person's mental illness or disability, then such person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101630D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 412**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB412)**Human trafficking; training for law-enforcement personnel.**

*Chief patron:*Delaney

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9.1-102 of the Code of Virginia, relating to human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.** Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish standards for law-enforcement personnel regarding trauma-informed training for the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103661D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 420**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB420)**Department of Health; evidence-based best practices for opioid-related emergencies.**

*Chief patron:*Delaney

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-23.02, relating to Department of Health; evidence-based best practices for opioid-related emergencies in the emergency department.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Department of Health; evidence-based best practices for opioid-related emergencies in the emergency department.** Requires hospitals to establish and implement policies and protocols consistent with evidence-based best practices for opioid-related emergencies in the emergency department published and regularly updated by the Department of Health.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101028D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 527**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB527)**Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.**

*Chief patron:*Helmer

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 29 of Title 54.1 an article numbered 11, consisting of a section numbered 54.1-2999, relating to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.** Creates the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to create a process for expedited issuance of a license to practice medicine in the Commonwealth for qualifying physicians to enhance the portability of medical licenses while protecting patient safety. The bill establishes requirements for coordination of information systems among member states and procedures for investigation and discipline of physicians alleged to have engaged in unprofessional conduct. The bill creates the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission to administer the compact.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101860D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 537**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB537)**Telemedicine; out of state providers; behavioral health services.**

*Chief patron:*Batten

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2901, 54.1-3501, 54.1-3601, and 54.1-3701 of the Code of Virginia, relating to telemedicine; out of state providers; behavioral health services.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Telemedicine; out of state providers; behavioral health services.**Allows certain practitioners of professions regulated by the Boards of Medicine, Counseling, Psychology, and Social Work who provide behavioral health services and who are licensed in another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory or possession and in good standing with such regulatory agency to engage in the practice of that profession in the Commonwealth with a patient located in the Commonwealth when (i) such practice is for the purpose of providing continuity of care through the use of telemedicine services and (ii) the practitioner has previously established a practitioner-patient relationship with the patient. The bill provides that a practitioner who provides behavioral health services to a patient located in the Commonwealth through use of telemedicine services may provide such services for a period of no more than one year from the date on which the practitioner began providing such services to such patient.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103670D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 637**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB637)**Duties of drivers of vehicles approaching stationary vehicles displaying certain warning lights.**

*Chief patron:*Carr

A BILL to amend and reenact § 46.2-861.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to duties of drivers of vehicles approaching stationary vehicles displaying certain warning lights; penalty.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Duties of drivers of vehicles approaching stationary vehicles displaying certain warning lights; penalty.** Establishes a minimum fine of $500 for a violation of the requirement for drivers to make a lane change or proceed with caution when approaching stationary vehicles displaying certain warning lights, commonly known as the "Move Over" law. The bill requires a driver who cannot change lanes safely to pass the stationary vehicle at no more than 10 miles per hour.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101018D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 680**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB680)**State plan for medical assistance services; case management services.**

*Chief patron:*Hope

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-325 of the Code of Virginia, relating to state plan for medical assistance services; case management services; individuals with severe traumatic brain injury.

*Summary as introduced:*
**State plan for medical assistance services; case management services; individuals with severe traumatic brain injury.** Directs the Board of Medical Assistance Services to update the state plan for medical assistance services to include a provision for the payment of medical assistance for targeted case management services for individuals with severe traumatic brain injury.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101512D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 722**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB722)**Virginia Freedom of Information Act; meetings held through electronic communication means.**

*Chief patron:*Gooditis

A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-3708.2 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; meetings held through electronic communication means; local advisory boards and commissions.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Freedom of Information Act; meetings held through electronic communication means; local advisory boards and commissions.**Allows a local public body that serves in an advisory capacity to gather through electronic communication means without a quorum of the public body physically assembled at one primary or central meeting location if certain conditions, outlined in the bill, are met.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22104117D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 746**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB746)**Volunteer Fire Department Training Fund.**

*Chief patron:*Bell

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 9.1 a section numbered 9.1-208.1, relating to the Volunteer Fire Department Training Fund.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Volunteer Fire Department Training Fund.** Creates a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Volunteer Fire Department Training Fund that shall be used solely for the purposes of assisting or reimbursing volunteer fire departments or volunteer fire companies with the costs of training and certifying volunteer firefighters. The bill also requires the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a workgroup to study the accessibility and availability of training programs with a specific focus on providing training programs to volunteer fire departments, volunteer fire companies, and volunteer firefighters in a cost-efficient and effective manner.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101260D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 754**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB754)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Adams, L.R.

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor pursuant to his powers under the Emergency Services and Disaster Law to no more than 60 days from the date of issuance. The bill provides that if the General Assembly does not take any action on the rule, regulation, or order within the 60 days during which the rule, regulation, or order is effective, the Governor shall thereafter be prohibited from issuing the same or a similar rule, regulation, or order relating to the same emergency. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next adjournment of the regular session of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101518D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 770**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB770)**Freestanding emergency departments; Bd. of Health to promulgate regulations related to departments.**

*Chief patron:*Hodges

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-123, 32.1-125, 32.1-127, 59.1-200, and 59.1-204 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-125.6, relating to freestanding emergency departments.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Freestanding emergency departments.** Requires the Board of Health to promulgate regulations related to freestanding emergency departments, defined in the bill as facilities located in the Commonwealth that (i) provide emergency services, (ii) are owned and operated by a licensed hospital and operate under the hospital's license, and (iii) are located on separate premises from the primary campus of the hospital. The bill also requires freestanding emergency departments to make certain disclosures to patients, in advertisements, and on any online platforms associated with such emergency department.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102861D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 777**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB777)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; Commissioner of Health; emergency orders and regulations.**

*Chief patron:*LaRock

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-13, 32.1-20, 32.1-42, and 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; Commissioner of Health; emergency orders and regulations; limitations; civil penalty.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; Commissioner of Health; emergency orders and regulations; limitations; civil penalty.** Provides that neither the Board of Health nor the Commissioner of Health shall make any emergency order or regulation unless, on the basis of the evidence available to the Board, (i) such order or regulation is necessary to suppress a nuisance dangerous to the public health or a communicable, contagious, or infectious disease or other danger to the public life and health; (ii) no alternatives to the proposed order or regulation that are reasonable in light of the impact on quality of life and economic well-being exist; and (iii) the provisions of such order or regulation are narrowly tailored to address the nuisance dangerous to the public health or a communicable, contagious, or infectious disease or other danger to the public life and health. The bill also provides that the Governor shall not issue any emergency rule, regulation, or order unless, on the basis of the evidence available to the Governor, (a) such rule, regulation, or order is necessary to address a compelling circumstance; (b) no alternatives to the proposed rule, regulation, or order that are reasonable in light of the impact on quality of life and economic well-being exist; and (c) the provisions of such rule, regulation, or order are narrowly tailored to address the compelling circumstance.

The bill provides that any order that limits the number of individuals who may gather together in person, in public or private, or categorizes individuals on the basis of their relationship to or association with such individuals and limits the categories of individuals with whom an individual who is not known or reasonably suspected to have been exposed to or infected with a communicable disease of public health threat may associate is presumed to negatively impact quality of life and economic well-being.

The bill also limits the duration of any emergency rule, regulation, or order to 15 days; provides for one extension of such rule, regulation, or order; and provides that any person who violates such rule, regulation, or order shall be subject to a civil penalty of no more than $100 per violation. Under current law, any person who violates the provisions of an executive order is subject to a Class 1 misdemeanor.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101934D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 793**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB793)**Traffic incident management vehicles.**

*Chief patron:*LaRock

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-920, 46.2-1023, 46.2-1029.2, and 46.2-1030 of the Code of Virginia, relating to traffic incident management vehicles.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Traffic incident management vehicles.** Adds traffic incident management vehicles, defined in the bill, when operated by persons who meet certain training requirements, to a list of vehicles exempt from certain traffic regulations when responding to an emergency. The bill also allows such vehicles to be equipped with flashing red or red and white secondary warning lights and sirens.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102735D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 810**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB810)**Political subdivisions; powers and duties, emergency management assessment.**

*Chief patron:*Price

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.19 of the Code of Virginia, relating to powers and duties of political subdivisions; emergency management assessment.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Powers and duties of political subdivisions; emergency management assessment.** Provides that all political subdivisions shall provide an annually updated emergency management assessment and data related to emergency sheltering capabilities to the State Coordinator of Emergency Management on or before August 1 of each year. Under current law, such assessment and data is due to the State Coordinator of Emergency Management on or before May 1 of each year.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102358D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 835**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB835)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Wilt

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the authority of the Governor to issue an executive order declaring a state of emergency that restricts, limits, or prohibits otherwise lawful action by a private business, nonprofit entity, or individual for a period more than 45 days in duration unless the General Assembly votes by a two-thirds majority to approve a period longer than 45 days. If the General Assembly does not approve such extension, the Governor is prohibited from issuing a rule, regulation, or order for the same emergency. The General Assembly is permitted to extend the executive order to a date requested by the Governor or to a date of the General Assembly's choosing, but it shall not approve the extension to a date beyond the first full week of the next regular session of the General Assembly, unless such date is requested by the Governor. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102804D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 854**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB854)**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.**

*Chief patron:*Reid

A BILL to amend and reenact § 51.1-138 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.** Adds 911 dispatchers to the list of local employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service. Under current law, localities may provide such benefits to first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and certain other hazardous duty positions.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101719D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 900**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB900)**Public health emergency; hospital or nursing home; addition of beds.**

*Chief patron:*Avoli

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-102.2 and 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public health emergency; hospitals and nursing homes; addition of beds.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Public health emergency; hospital or nursing home; addition of beds.** Creates an exemption from the requirement for a certificate of public need or a license for the temporary addition of beds located in a temporary structure or satellite location by a hospital or nursing home in cases in which the Board of Health or the Commissioner of Health (the Commissioner) has entered an emergency order for the purpose of suppressing a nuisance dangerous to public health or a communicable, contagious, or infectious disease or other danger to the public life and health and provides that such exemption shall apply for the duration of the emergency order plus 30 days. The bill also expands the duration of the existing exemption from the requirement for a certificate of public need or a license for the addition of temporary beds when the Commissioner has determined that a natural or man-made disaster has caused the evacuation of a hospital or nursing home and that a public health emergency exists due to a shortage of hospital or nursing home beds to the duration of such determination plus 30 days and makes clear that such exemption shall apply to the temporary addition of beds located in a temporary structure or satellite location by a hospital or nursing home.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102131D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 910**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB910)**Hospital emergency department severity code data reporting.**

*Chief patron:*Orrock

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 32.1 a section numbered 32.1-137.09, relating to hospital emergency department severity code data reporting.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Hospital emergency department severity code data reporting.** Requires every hospital in the Commonwealth with an emergency department to report monthly to the Department of Health (the Department) the total number of visits to the hospital's emergency department and the total number of visits to the hospital's emergency department by severity cod. The bill directs the Department to (i) determine the average number of hospital emergency department visits for each severity code statewide and by region for each month, (ii) identify hospitals that report a number of hospital emergency department visits for the highest severity code that is greater than the regional average for such severity code for each month, and (iii) work with such hospitals to determine why the hospital is reporting a number of emergency department visits coded at the highest severity code that exceed the regional average. The bill also requires the Department to develop guidelines for the use of severity codes in emergency departments to facilitate accurate coding of emergency department visits by severity.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100889D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 911**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB911)**Approved local volunteer activities; enables localities to provide credit against taxes & fees.**

*Chief patron:*Orrock

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 30 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-3019, relating to local credits for approved local volunteer activities.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Local credits for approved local volunteer activities.** Enables localities, by ordinance, to provide a credit against taxes and fees imposed by the locality to an individual who provides approved volunteer services in the locality. As defined in the bill, "approved volunteer services" includes (i) volunteer first responders or (ii) individuals who perform volunteer services to a nonprofit organization or to the locality, if such services are approved by the locality. The bill specifies that the credit shall not be applied against any property taxes or payments in lieu of property taxes. The bill gives localities discretion to determine which taxes or fees are permissible uses of the credit and which services qualify for the credit.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100927D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 939**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB939)**Commissioner of Health; administration and dispensing of necessary drugs and devices.**

*Chief patron:*Robinson

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.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Commissioner of Health; administration and dispensing of necessary drugs and devices during public health emergency.** Allows the Commissioner of Health to authorize persons who are not authorized by law to administer or dispense drugs or devices to do so in accordance with protocols established by the Commissioner when the Board of Health has made an emergency order 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. Current law limits the Commissioner's ability to make such authorizations to circumstances when 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.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103968D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 981**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB981)**Certain health professions; licensure by endorsement.**

*Chief patron:*Scott, P.A.

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2709, 54.1-2722, 54.1-2927, 54.1-2951.1, 54.1-2957, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, 54.1-2957.04, 54.1-3018, 54.1-3021, and 54.1-3024 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-3042.1, relating to certain health professions; licensure by endorsement.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Certain health professions; licensure by endorsement.** Requires the Boards of Dentistry, Medicine, and Nursing to grant an application by endorsement to any applicant who is licensed, certified, or registered in another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory or possession upon submission of evidence satisfactory to such board. Currently, the Boards of Dentistry, Medicine, and Nursing are authorized but not required to grant a license, certification, or registration by endorsement for applicants wishing to practice regulated professions.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22104006D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 1037**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB1037)**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.**

*Chief patron:*Sewell

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 37.2-808 and 37.2-810 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.** Provides that, in cases in which transportation of a person subject to an emergency custody order or temporary detention order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and that the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as custody of the person is transferred to the community services board or its designee that is responsible for conducting the evaluation or the temporary detention facility, as is appropriate. The bill also adds employees of and persons providing services pursuant to a contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to the list of individuals who may serve as alternative transportation providers.

The bill also requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to expand its existing contract for the provision of alternative transportation of a person who is subject to a temporary detention order or enter into new contracts for alternative transportation of a person who is subject to a temporary detention order to ensure sufficient availability of alternative transportation providers to take custody of and provide alternative transportation for all persons for whom alternative transportation is ordered.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102701D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HB 1039**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HB1039)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Scott, P.A.

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor pursuant to his powers under the Emergency Services and Disaster Law to no more than 30 days from the date of issuance unless the General Assembly votes to approve a period longer than 30 days by a two-thirds majority of each house. If a special session is called to address the emergency, it shall take place by electronic means only. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next adjournment of the regular session of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/12/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101300D
01/12/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**HJ 52**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+HJ52)**Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; study; Commonwealth's public health system.**

*Chief patron:*Mullin

Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the Commonwealth's public health system. Report.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission; study; Commonwealth's public health system; report.** Directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study the Commonwealth's public health system, including the structure, organization, operations, and resources of the existing public health system and the effectiveness of the current public health system in meeting public health need, and develop recommendations for improving the Commonwealth's public health system to improve overall public health.

01/11/22 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103603D
01/11/22 House: Committee Referral Pending

[**SB 4**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB4)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Suetterlein

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor pursuant to his powers under the Emergency Services and Disaster Law to no more than 45 days from the date of issuance. The bill provides that if the General Assembly does not take any action on the rule, regulation, or order within the 45 days during which the rule, regulation, or order is effective, the Governor shall thereafter be prohibited from issuing the same or a similar rule, regulation, or order relating to the same emergency. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next regular session of the General Assembly.

11/22/21 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100576D
11/22/21 Senate: Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

[**SB 63**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB63)**Abuse and neglect of a child; safe haven defense.**

*Chief patron:*Ruff

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 16.1-228, 18.2-371, 18.2-371.1, 40.1-103, and 63.2-100 of the Code of Virginia, relating to abuse and neglect of a child; safe haven defense.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Abuse and neglect of a child; safe haven defense.** Increases from 14 days to 30 days the maximum age of an infant whom a parent may voluntarily deliver to a hospital or emergency medical services agency and claim an affirmative defense to prosecution for abuse or neglect if such prosecution is based solely upon the parent's having left the infant at such facility.

01/03/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103521D
01/03/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on the Judiciary

[**SB 130**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB130)**Certificate of public need; conditions and licensure of nursing homes and hospitals, etc.**

*Chief patron:*Favola

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-102.2 and 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia, relating to certificate of public need; conditions and licensure of hospitals and nursing homes; public health emergency.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Certificate of public need; conditions and licensure of nursing homes and hospitals; public health emergency.** Provides for an exemption from the requirement for a certificate of public need, for the duration of the State Health Commissioner's determination, emergency order of the State Board of Health, or Commissioner's exercising of authority on behalf of the Board, plus a period of 30 days, for projects involving a temporary increase in the total number of beds in an existing hospital or nursing home, which may include temporary structures or satellite locations that are operated by the hospital or nursing home in response to a public health emergency, when the Commissioner has determined that a natural or man-made disaster has caused the evacuation of a hospital or nursing home and that a public health emergency exists due to a shortage of hospital or nursing home beds, or when the Board has made an emergency order or the Commissioner is exercising authority on behalf of the Board 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.

01/07/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103615D
01/07/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 148**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB148)**Public health emergencies; expands immunity for health care providers.**

*Chief patron:*Norment

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 8.01-225.01 and 8.01-225.02 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public health emergencies; immunity for health care providers.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Public health emergencies; immunity for health care providers.** Expands immunity provided to health care providers responding to a disaster to include actions or omissions taken by the provider as directed by any order of public health in response to such disaster when a local emergency, state of emergency, or public health emergency has been declared.

01/09/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102585D
01/09/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on the Judiciary

[**SB 166**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB166)**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.**

*Chief patron:*Peake

A BILL to amend and reenact § 44-146.17, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency Services and Disaster Law; limitation on duration of executive orders.** Limits the duration of any executive order issued by the Governor pursuant to his powers under the Emergency Services and Disaster Law to no more than 30 days from the date of issuance. The bill provides that if the General Assembly does not take any action on the rule, regulation, or order within the 30 days during which the rule, regulation, or order is effective, the Governor may once again issue the same rule, regulation, or order but shall thereafter be prohibited from issuing the same or a similar rule, regulation, or order relating to the same emergency. Under current law, once issued, such executive orders are effective until June 30 following the next adjournment of the regular session of the General Assembly. The bill contains technical amendments.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102274D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

[**SB 170**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB170)**Statewide Telehealth Plan; emergency services coordination.**

*Chief patron:*Peake

A BILL to direct the Department of Health to amend the Statewide Telehealth Plan regarding emergency services coordination.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Department of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; emergency services coordination.** Directs the Department of Health to amend the Statewide Telehealth Plan to require health care providers providing telehealth services to directly contact and coordinate with emergency services in accordance with the standard of care that is appropriate to the patient's situation and to the services rendered during the telehealth visit.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102426D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health
01/13/22 Senate: Impact statement from DPB (SB170)

[**SB 176**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB176)**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation of person when transfer of custody.**

*Chief patron:*Peake

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 37.2-808 and 37.2-810 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.** Makes clear that, in cases in which transportation of a person subject to an emergency custody order or temporary detention order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and that the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as custody of the person is transferred to the community services board or its designee that is responsible for conducting the evaluation or the temporary detention facility, as is appropriate. The bill also adds employees of and persons providing services pursuant to a contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to the list of individuals who may serve as alternative transportation providers.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102915D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 189**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB189)**Employer-mandated vaccinations for COVID-19; discrimination prohibited, civil penalties.**

*Chief patron:*Chase

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 40.1-27.5, relating to employer-mandated vaccinations for COVID-19; discrimination prohibited; civil penalties.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Employer-mandated vaccinations for COVID-19; discrimination prohibited; civil penalties.**Prohibits an employer from requiring its employees to receive a vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19. The bill prohibits an employer from discrimination against an employee because the employee has or has not received a vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19. The bill also provides for civil penalties not to exceed $10,000 by an employer with fewer than 100 employees or $50,000 by an employer with 100 or more employees for each violation of the bill's provisions.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103782D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

[**SB 192**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB192)**Health director, local; qualifications.**

*Chief patron:*Mason

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-30 of the Code of Virginia, relating to local health director; qualifications.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Local health director; qualifications.** Allows local health directors to possess a Doctor of Public Health degree, a Master of Public Health degree, or a doctoral degree in the area of public health as an alternative to the current requirement that local health directors be physicians licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100567D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 202**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB202)**Alternative custody arrangements; options to increase use for certain individuals.**

*Chief patron:*Newman

A BILL to require the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, together with the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, to study options to increase the use of alternative custody arrangements for individuals who are subject to an emergency custody or temporary detention order; report.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Study; Secretary of Health and Human Resources and Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security; increase use of alternative custody arrangements for individuals subject to an emergency custody or temporary detention order; report.** Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, together with the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, to study options to increase the use of alternative custody arrangements for individuals who are subject to an emergency custody or temporary detention order and to report his findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committees on Appropriations and Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committees on Education and Health and Finance and Appropriations by October 1, 2022.

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103680D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 205**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB205)**Certificate of public need; expedited review process for certain projects.**

*Chief patron:*Petersen

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-102.1 and 32.1-102.2 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-102.6:2, relating to certificate of public need; expedited review process.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Certificate of public need; expedited review process.** Requires the Department of Health to establish an expedited review process for certain projects involving addition of imaging equipment, addition of a new ambulatory or outpatient surgery center, addition of operating rooms at an existing ambulatory or outpatient surgery center, and addition of psychiatric beds or conversion of existing beds at a medical care facility to psychiatric beds and requires the Board of Health to include in regulations governing the certificate of public need program a provision for the development of review criteria and standards for specific medical care facilities and health care services for each health planning region that take into account the unique needs and characteristics of such region. The bill also amends the definition of "charity care" and defines "health care service" and "indigent."

01/10/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101209D
01/10/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 268**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB268)**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.**

*Chief patron:*Favola

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 37.2-808 and 37.2-810 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.

*Summary as introduced:*

**Emergency custody and temporary detention; transportation; transfer of custody.** Provides that, in cases in which transportation of a person subject to an emergency custody order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as an evaluation is conducted and custody is transferred pursuant to a temporary detention order or the person is released upon determination the person does not meet the criteria for temporary detention or custody of the person is transferred to the community services board or its designee that is responsible for conducting the evaluation. The bill also provides that in cases in which transportation of a person subject to a temporary detention order is ordered to be provided by an alternative transportation provider, the primary law-enforcement agency that executes the order may transfer custody of the person to the alternative transportation provider immediately upon execution of the order, and that the alternative transportation provider shall maintain custody of the person from the time custody is transferred to the alternative transportation provider by the primary law-enforcement agency until such time as custody of the person is transferred to the temporary detention facility. The bill also adds employees of and persons providing services pursuant to a contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to the list of individuals who may serve as alternative transportation providers.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103833D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 289**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB289)**Workers' compensation; anxiety disorder or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement, etc.**

*Chief patron:*DeSteph

A BILL to amend and reenact § 65.2-107 of the Code of Virginia, relating to workers' compensation; anxiety disorder or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Workers' compensation; anxiety disorder or depressive disorder incurred by law-enforcement officers and firefighters.** Provides that an anxiety disorder or depressive disorder, as both are defined in the bill, incurred by a law-enforcement officer or firefighter is compensable under the Virginia Workers' Compensation Act on the same basis as post-traumatic stress disorder. The bill provides that a mental health professional must diagnose the law-enforcement officer or firefighter as suffering from anxiety disorder or depressive disorder as a result of a qualifying event, as defined in the Code, and includes other conditions for compensability.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101635D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

[**SB 317**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB317)**Out-of-state health care practitioners; temporary authorization to practice.**

*Chief patron:*Favola

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-2408.4 and by adding in Article 3 of Chapter 29 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-2941.1, relating to out-of-state health care practitioners; temporary authorization to practice pending licensure; licensure by reciprocity for physicians; emergency.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Out-of-state health care practitioners; temporary authorization to practice; licensure by reciprocity for physicians; emergency.** Allows a health care practitioner licensed in another state or the District of Columbia who has submitted an application for licensure to the appropriate health regulatory board to temporarily practice for a period of 90 days pending licensure, provided that certain conditions are met. The bill directs the Department of Health Professions to pursue reciprocity agreements with jurisdictions that surround the Commonwealth to streamline the application process in order to facilitate the practice of medicine. The bill requires the Department of Health Professions to annually report to the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions the number of out-of-state health care practitioners who have utilized the temporary authorization to practice pending licensure and have not subsequently been issued full licensure. The bill contains an emergency clause.

EMERGENCY

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed with emergency clause; offered 01/12/22 22103982D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health
01/13/22 Senate: Assigned Education sub: Health Professions
01/14/22 Senate: Senate subcommittee amendments and substitutes offered

[**SB 340**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB340)**Freestanding emergency departments; Bd. of Health to promulgate regulations related to departments.**

*Chief patron:*Barker

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-123, 32.1-125, 32.1-127, 59.1-200, and 59.1-204 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-125.6, relating to freestanding emergency departments.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Freestanding emergency departments.** Requires the Board of Health to promulgate regulations related to freestanding emergency departments, defined in the bill as facilities located in the Commonwealth that (i) provide emergency services, (ii) are owned and operated by a licensed hospital and operate under the hospital's license, and (iii) are located on separate premises from the primary campus of the hospital. The bill also requires freestanding emergency departments to make certain disclosures to patients, in advertisements, and on any online platforms associated with such emergency department.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101751D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 369**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB369)**Telemedicine services; practitioners licensed by Board of Medicine.**

*Chief patron:*Stuart

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2901 of the Code of Virginia, relating to telemedicine; practitioners licensed by Board of Medicine.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Telemedicine services; practitioners licensed by Board of Medicine.** Allows a practitioner of a profession regulated by the Board of Medicine who is licensed in another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory or possession and who is in good standing with the applicable regulatory agency in that state, the District of Columbia, or that United States territory or possession to engage in the practice of that profession in the Commonwealth with a patient located in the Commonwealth when (i) such practice is for the purpose of providing continuity of care through the use of telemedicine services and (ii) the patient is a current patient of the practitioner with whom the practitioner has previously established a practitioner-patient relationship.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100169D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health
01/13/22 Senate: Assigned Education sub: Health Professions

[**SB 416**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB416)**Virginia Public Procurement Act; purchase of personal protective equipment.**

*Chief patron:*DeSteph

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-4328.2, relating to the Virginia Public Procurement Act; purchase of personal protective equipment.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Public Procurement Act; purchase of personal protective equipment.** Requires a state agency, whenever purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) for public use, to purchase such PPE from a Virginia-based company or manufacturer or a manufacturer that uses materials made in the United States. The bill provides that if a state agency is unable to purchase PPE from such company or manufacturer, it may purchase from another company or manufacturer, pending the results of independent laboratory testing of the PPE. Additionally, the bill directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to establish a work group to make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding products other than personal protective equipment that state agencies should purchase with the same requirements. The Secretary shall report the recommendations of the work group to the Chairs of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology by September 1, 2022.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100888D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology

[**SB 436**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB436)**Board of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; Virginia Telehealth Network.**

*Chief patron:*Barker

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-122.03:1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; Virginia Telehealth Network.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Board of Health; Statewide Telehealth Plan; Virginia Telehealth Network.** Requires the Board of Health to consult with the Virginia Telehealth Network in amending and maintaining the Statewide Telehealth Plan. The bill requires the Board of Health to leverage the expertise of the Virginia Telehealth Network, or another Virginia-based nongovernmental organization focused on telehealth if the Virginia Telehealth Network is no longer in existence, to (i) provide direct consultation to any advisory groups and groups tasked by the Board with implementation and data collection, (ii) track implementation of the Statewide Telehealth Plan, and (iii) facilitate changes to the Statewide Telehealth Plan as accepted medical practices and technologies evolve.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103818D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 448**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB448)**Hospital regulations; policies and procedures related to victims of domestic violence.**

*Chief patron:*Boysko

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia, relating to hospital regulations; policies and procedures related to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Hospital regulations; policies and procedures related to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.** Requires hospitals to develop and implement written policies and procedures related to the screening and treatment of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22103845D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SB 450**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB450)**Traffic incident management vehicles.**

*Chief patron:*Boysko

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-1029.2 and 46.2-1030 of the Code of Virginia, relating to traffic incident management vehicles.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Traffic incident management vehicles.** Adds traffic incident management vehicles, defined in the bill, operated by persons who meet certain training requirements to a list of vehicles exempt from certain traffic regulations at or en route to the scene of a traffic accident or similar incident. The bill also allows such vehicles to be equipped with sirens and flashing red or red and white secondary warning lights.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100453D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Transportation

[**SB 467**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB467)**Human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.**

*Chief patron:*Vogel

A BILL to amend and reenact § 9.1-102 of the Code of Virginia, relating to human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Human trafficking training for law-enforcement personnel.** Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to establish training standards for law-enforcement personnel regarding the recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22102983D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on the Judiciary

[**SB 468**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB468)**Line of Duty Act; Virginia licensed health practitioners required to conduct medical reviews.**

*Chief patron:*DeSteph

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-404 and 9.1-405 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Retirement System; Line of Duty Act; medical reviews to be conducted by Virginia practitioners.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Retirement System; Line of Duty Act; medical reviews to be conducted by Virginia practitioners.** Provides that, for any medical review of a claim made pursuant to the provisions of the Line of Duty Act, the Virginia Retirement System shall require that such review be conducted by a doctor, nurse, or psychologist who is licensed in Virginia or a contiguous state. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2023.

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100890D
01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Finance and Appropriations

[**SB 545**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB545)**Registration fees for motor vehicles; state park access fee.**

*Chief patron:*Marsden

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 10.1-200.3, 10.1-202, 46.2-686, and 46.2-694, as it is currently effective and as it may become effective, of the Code of Virginia, relating to registration fees for motor vehicles; state park access fee.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Registration fees for motor vehicles; state park access fee.** Imposes a $5 state park access fee to be collected at the time other vehicle registration fees are paid and to be deposited into the State Park Conservation Resources Fund. Under the bill, a person who shows proof of payment of the fee is not required to pay any additional fees for access to a state park.

01/12/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22100223D
01/12/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

[**SB 585**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB585)**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.**

*Chief patron:*Reeves

A BILL to amend and reenact § 51.1-138 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Virginia Retirement System; enhanced retirement benefits for 911 dispatchers.** Adds 911 dispatchers to the list of local employees eligible to receive enhanced retirement benefits for hazardous duty service. Under current law, localities may provide such benefits to first responders, including firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and certain other hazardous duty positions.

01/12/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101540D
01/12/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Finance and Appropriations

[**SB 617**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB617)**Commissioner of Health and local health director qualifications; local variances.**

*Chief patron:*Locke

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-17, 32.1-30, and 32.1-34 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Commissioner of Health and local health director qualifications; local variances.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Commissioner of Health and local health director qualifications; local variances.** Requires the Commissioner of Health to possess a Doctor of Public Health degree, a Master of Public Health degree, or a doctoral degree in the area of public health in addition to the current requirement that the Commissioner of Health be a physician licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth with certification from the American Board of Preventive Medicine or a recognized board in a primary care specialty as approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties. The bill allows local health directors to possess a Doctor of Public Health degree, a Master of Public Health degree, or a doctoral degree in the area of public health as an alternative to the current requirement that local health directors be physicians licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth. Additionally, the bill allows the Commissioner to grant a variance to a state law or regulation of the Board when the Commissioner determines that, upon review of an application from a county, city, or town, (i) the applicant for such variance has demonstrated that the implementation of a regulation would impose a substantial financial or programmatic hardship and (ii) the variance would not adversely affect the safety and well-being of residents of the county, city, or town or the Commonwealth.

01/12/22 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 22103430D
01/12/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Education and Health

[**SJ 42**](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SJ42)**Study; Joint Commission on Health Care; benefits of hospitals, health systems, and other providers.**

*Chief patron:*Suetterlein

Directing the Joint Commission on Health Care to study the benefits of hospitals, health systems, and other providers in addressing the health-related social needs of Virginians. Report.

*Summary as introduced:*
**Study; Joint Commission on Health Care; benefits of hospitals, health systems, and other providers addressing the health-related social needs of Virginians; report.** Directs the Joint Commission on Health Care to study the benefits of hospitals, health systems, and other providers in addressing the health-related social needs of Virginians. The study shall identify opportunities for policy making to make health care in Virginia more affordable and effective through innovations in care coordination, workforce development, payment options, and improved data collection.

01/12/22 Senate: Presented and ordered printed 22103464D
01/12/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Rules