

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.2-1627.5, relating to local*
3 *multidisciplinary child sexual abuse response teams.*

4
5 Approved

[H 334]

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

7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.2-1627.5 as follows:**

8 **§ 15.2-1627.5. Coordination of multidisciplinary response to child sexual abuse.**

9 *A. The attorney for the Commonwealth in each jurisdiction in the Commonwealth shall establish a*
10 *multidisciplinary child sexual abuse response team, which may be an existing multidisciplinary team.*
11 *The multidisciplinary team shall conduct regular reviews of new and ongoing reports of felony sex*
12 *offenses in the jurisdiction involving a child and the investigations thereof and, at the request of any*
13 *member of the team, may conduct reviews of any other reports of child abuse and neglect or sex*
14 *offenses in the jurisdiction involving a child and the investigations thereof. The multidisciplinary team*
15 *shall meet frequently enough to ensure that no new or ongoing reports go more than 60 days without*
16 *being reviewed by the team.*

17 *B. The following individuals, or their designees, shall participate in review meetings of the*
18 *multidisciplinary team: the attorney for the Commonwealth; law-enforcement officials responsible for the*
19 *investigation of sex offenses involving a child in the jurisdiction; a representative of the local child*
20 *protective services unit; a representative of a child advocacy center serving the jurisdiction, if one*
21 *exists; and an Internet Crimes Against Children task force affiliate agency serving the jurisdiction, if*
22 *one exists. In addition, the attorney for the Commonwealth may invite other individuals, or their*
23 *designees, including the school superintendent of the jurisdiction; a representative of any sexual assault*
24 *crisis center serving the jurisdiction, if one exists; the director of the victim/witness program serving the*
25 *jurisdiction, if one exists; and a health professional knowledgeable in the treatment and provision of*
26 *services to children who have been sexually abused.*

27 **2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2015.**

28 **3. That the Department of Criminal Justice Services shall disseminate sample guidelines for**
29 **protocols, procedures, and memoranda of understanding for multidisciplinary child sexual abuse**
30 **response teams that may be implemented by such teams.**

ENROLLED

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