

VIRGINIA RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual Meeting

3 August, 2025

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1629 Health care records; providers shall provide one free copy of records stored in EHR upon request.

Patroned by Delegate Joshua Thomas, HB 1629 deals with providing a free copy of a patient's medical records.

- Requires that a health care provider provide one free copy of a patient's medical records per calendar year if requested by a patient or his attorney for the purposes of supporting a claim or appeal under certain provisions of the Social Security Act or any federal or state financial needs-based benefit program.
- The bill provides that any additional request for medical records in the same calendar year are subject to a reasonable fee.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1635 and **SB 1352** Certified nurse midwives; licensed certified midwives; independent practice; organized medical staff.

Patroned by Delegate Joshua Cole and Senator Kannan Srinivasan the bill authorizes independent practice for licensed certified midwives.

- Permits licensed certified midwives who have completed 1,000 hours of practice under a practice agreement to practice without a practice agreement upon receipt of an attestation from the licensed physician or midwife with whom they entered into a practice agreement.
- The bill also permits certified nurse midwives and licensed certified midwives to enter into practice agreements with certified nurse midwives or licensed certified midwives who are authorized to practice independently.
- The bill directs the Department of Health to amend its regulations to clarify that an organized medical staff may include other practitioners, including independent practice midwives, in addition to physicians and dentists.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1636 Civil immunity; health care professionals; professional programs related to career fatigue and wellness.

Patroned by Delegate Patrick Hope the bill expands the civil immunity for career fatigue and wellness programs already in statute.

- Expands civil immunity for persons who participate in professional programs related to career fatigue and wellness for health care professionals to include those who participate in programs for
 - any health care professionals licensed, registered, or certified by the Department of Health Professions or
 - students enrolled in programs that are prerequisites to licensure, registration, or certification by the Department of Health Professions. Under current law, civil immunity extends only to persons participating in programs for
 - professionals licensed, registered, or certified by the Boards of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, or Pharmacy or
 - students enrolled in a school of dentistry, dental hygiene, medicine, osteopathic medicine, nursing, or pharmacy.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1649 and **SB 740** Board of Medicine; continuing education; unconscious bias and cultural competency.

Patroned by Delegate Cliff Hayes and Senator Mamie Locke the bills require unconscious bias and cultural competency training.

- Directs the Board of Medicine to require unconscious bias and cultural competency training as part of the continuing education requirements for renewal of licensure.
- The bill specifies requirements for the training and requires the Board of Medicine to report on the training to the Department of Health and the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative.
- Vetoed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1828 and **SB 1436** Health insurance; cost sharing for breast examinations.

Patroned by Delegate Shelly Simonds and Senator Russet Perry the bills eliminate cost sharing for diagnostic breast examinations and supplemental breast examinations.

- Prohibits health insurance carriers from imposing cost sharing for diagnostic breast examinations and supplemental breast examinations, as those terms are defined in the bill, under certain insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in the Commonwealth on and after January 1, 2026.
- The bill provides that such examinations include examinations using diagnostic mammography, breast magnetic resonance imaging, or breast ultrasound.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 1730 and **SB 894** Personal injury or death by wrongful act; liability of employer to vulnerable victims.

Patroned by Delegate Karrie Delaney and Senator Russet Perry this legislation is in response to several incidents at health care facilities in the Commonwealth that received wide media coverage and generated considerable outrage amongst the public and policy makers. It became the Speaker of the House's number one legislative issue for the 2025 session.

- Provides that in an action for personal injury or death by wrongful act brought by a vulnerable victim, defined in the bill, against an employee, a finding that the employee's employer is vicariously liable for such employee's conduct shall be based on several factors:
 - including the likelihood of the employee coming into contact with such vulnerable victim and
 - the employer's failure to exercise reasonable care over the employee.
- Vulnerable victim is defined as any person who is at a substantial disadvantage relative to an employee due to circumstances, including such person's physical or mental condition or characteristics, and, as a matter of law, shall include:
 - the patient of a health care provider, as defined in § [8.01-581.1](#)
 - person under a disability pursuant to § [8.01-2](#)
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 2085 and **SB 925** Health insurance; carrier business practices, method of payment for claims.

Patroned by Delegate Irene Shin and Senator Chris Head the legislation mandates transparency for health insurance carrier payment transactions.

- Requires a health insurance carrier to notify the provider in a provider contract if the carrier, or entity completing a transaction on behalf of the carrier, uses a payment method that imposes a transaction or processing fee or similar charge on the provider and to offer the provider an alternative payment method that does not impose such a fee or similar charge.
- If the provider elects to accept the alternative payment method and has provided all required information to the carrier to enroll in such alternative method, the bill specifies that the carrier is required to pay the claim using such alternative payment method.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 2099 and **SB 1215** Health insurance; required provisions regarding prior authorization for health care services.

Patroned by Delegate Michelle Maldonado and Senator Stella Pekarsky the legislation mandates transparency in a health carrier's prior authorization policies.

- Requires certain health insurance contracts under which an insurance carrier has the right or obligation to require prior authorization for a health care service, as defined in the bill, to include provisions governing the prior authorization process.
- Such required provisions include
 - (i) time limits for a carrier to respond to prior authorization requests,
 - (ii) a prohibition on revoking, limiting, making conditional, modifying, or restricting a previously approved prior authorization except under certain circumstances, and
 - (iii) a requirement that a carrier shall provide the reasons for denial of a request.
- The bill requires a carrier to make publicly available on its website a list of health care services and codes for which prior authorization is required.
- The foregoing provisions have a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 2119 and **SB 1203** Certificate of public need; task force to develop recommendation for expedited application & review.

Patroned by Delegate Wendell Walker and Senator Chris Head the bills seek to make it easier to establish health care facilities and services in medically underserved areas.

- Requires the State Health Commissioner to direct the State Health Services Plan Task Force to develop recommendations for establishing an expedited application and review process for certain projects for which a certificate of public need is required if such projects are located in areas that meet certain demographic requirements.
- The “demographic requirements” listed in the bill are:
 - does not have a hospital or health care provider
 - within a 30-mile radius where the population density is estimated to be less than 1,500 residents per square mile
 - does not have a hospital or health care provider within a 15-mile radius where the population density is estimated to be more than 1,500 residents per square mile
 - has less than one primary care physician per 3,500 residents
 - has an annual poverty rate of at least 20 percent, according to the latest data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.
- To qualify the project must meet at least two of the above criteria.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

HB 2269 Hospitals; reports of threats or acts of violence against health care providers.

Patroned by Delegate Kathy Tran the bill requires that hospitals establish a workplace violence incident reporting system.

- Requires hospitals in the Commonwealth to establish a workplace violence incident reporting system to document, track, and analyze any incident of workplace violence reported.
- The bill requires each hospital to report the data collected via the reporting system
 - (i) to the chief medical officer and the chief nursing officer of such hospital on, at minimum, a quarterly basis and
 - (ii) to the Department of Health on an annual basis.
- The bill also requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in collaboration with the Department of Criminal Justice Services, to convene a stakeholder work group for the purpose of making recommendations on the workplace violence system and policies adopted pursuant to the bill.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

SB 1237 and **HB 2082** Medical Assistance Services, Department of; appeals of agency determinations.

Patroned by Senator Jennifer Boysko and Delegate Patrick Hope the bills expand the ability of providers to appeal agency decisions.

- Allows health care providers to appeal any adverse action or determination by the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) or a DMAS contractor.
- Under current law, such appeal is allowed for a determination of overpayment to a provider by DMAS.
- The bill adds provisions allowing for DMAS and an appealing provider to stay the deadline for their appeal decision to facilitate settlement discussions.
- The bill further specifies that DMAS contractors are required to represent themselves during appeal proceedings.
- Signed by the Governor.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

Questions