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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2594**

Offered January 13, 2025

Prefiled January 13, 2025

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 9.1-102 and 18.2-283 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 a section numbered 9.1-116.11, relating to standards and training for security at religious places of worship; Religious Place of Worship Security Services Fund established.

Patrons—Singh, Cole, Jones, Laufer, Shin and Tran; Senators: Salim and Srinivasan

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

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

**1. That §§ 9.1-102 and 18.2-283 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 1 of Chapter 1 of Title 9.1 a section numbered 9.1-116.11 as follows:**

**§ 9.1-102. Powers and duties of the Board and the Department.**

The Department, under the direction of the Board, which shall be the policy-making body for carrying out the duties and powers hereunder, shall have the power and duty to:

1. Adopt regulations, pursuant to the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), for the administration of this chapter including the authority to require the submission of reports and information by law-enforcement officers within the Commonwealth. Any proposed regulations concerning the privacy, confidentiality, and security of criminal justice information shall be submitted for review and comment to any board, commission, or committee or other body which may be established by the General Assembly to regulate the privacy, confidentiality, and security of information collected and maintained by the Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof;

2. Establish compulsory minimum training standards subsequent to employment as a law-enforcement officer in (i) permanent positions and (ii) temporary or probationary status and establish the time required for completion of such training. Such compulsory minimum training standards shall include crisis intervention training in accordance with clause (i) of § 9.1-188;

3. Establish minimum training standards and qualifications for certification and recertification for law-enforcement officers serving as field training officers;

4. Establish compulsory minimum curriculum requirements for in-service and advanced courses and programs for schools, whether located in or outside the Commonwealth, which are operated for the specific purpose of training law-enforcement officers;

5. Establish (i) compulsory minimum training standards for law-enforcement officers who utilize radar or an electrical or microcomputer device to measure the speed of motor vehicles as provided in § 46.2-882 and establish the time required for completion of the training and (ii) compulsory minimum qualifications for certification and recertification of instructors who provide such training;

6. [Repealed];

7. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service and advanced training standards for those persons designated to provide courthouse and courtroom security pursuant to the provisions of § 53.1-120, and to establish the time required for completion of such training;

8. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service and advanced training standards for deputy sheriffs designated to serve process pursuant to the provisions of § 8.01-293, and establish the time required for the completion of such training;

9. Establish compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service, and advanced training standards, as well as the time required for completion of such training, for persons employed as deputy sheriffs and jail officers by local criminal justice agencies and correctional officers employed by the Department of Corrections under the provisions of Title 53.1. For correctional officers employed by the Department of Corrections, such standards shall include training on the general care of pregnant women, the impact of restraints on pregnant inmates and fetuses, the impact of being placed in restrictive housing or solitary confinement on pregnant inmates, and the impact of body cavity searches on pregnant inmates;

10. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for all dispatchers employed by or in any local or state government agency, whose duties include the dispatching of law-enforcement personnel. Such training standards shall apply only to dispatchers hired on or after July 1, 1988. Such training shall include training in the identification of, communication with, and facilitation of the safe return of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and dementia, which shall include (i) techniques for respectful and effective communication with individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia and their caregivers; (ii) techniques

59 for addressing the behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, including alternatives to  
60 physical restraint; (iii) protocols for identifying and reporting incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of  
61 individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia to adult protective services; (iv) protocols for contacting  
62 caregivers when an individual with Alzheimer's disease or dementia is found wandering or during an  
63 emergency or crisis situation; (v) a reference list of local resources available for individuals with Alzheimer's  
64 disease and dementia; and (vi) a reference list of local and national organizations that assist law-enforcement  
65 personnel with locating missing and wandering individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia and  
66 returning them to their caregivers;

67 11. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for all auxiliary police officers employed by or in  
68 any local or state government agency. Such training shall be graduated and based on the type of duties to be  
69 performed by the auxiliary police officers. Such training standards shall not apply to auxiliary police officers  
70 exempt pursuant to § 15.2-1731;

71 12. Consult and cooperate with counties, municipalities, agencies of the Commonwealth, other state and  
72 federal governmental agencies, and institutions of higher education within or outside the Commonwealth,  
73 concerning the development of police training schools and programs or courses of instruction;

74 13. Approve institutions, curricula and facilities, whether located in or outside the Commonwealth, for  
75 school operation for the specific purpose of training law-enforcement officers; but this shall not prevent the  
76 holding of any such school whether approved or not;

77 14. Establish and maintain police training programs through such agencies and institutions as the Board  
78 deems appropriate;

79 15. Establish compulsory minimum qualifications of certification and recertification for instructors in  
80 criminal justice training academies approved by the Department;

81 16. Conduct and stimulate research by public and private agencies which shall be designed to improve  
82 police administration and law enforcement;

83 17. Make recommendations concerning any matter within its purview pursuant to this chapter;

84 18. Coordinate its activities with those of any interstate system for the exchange of criminal history record  
85 information, nominate one or more of its members to serve upon the council or committee of any such  
86 system, and participate when and as deemed appropriate in any such system's activities and programs;

87 19. Conduct inquiries and investigations it deems appropriate to carry out its functions under this chapter  
88 and, in conducting such inquiries and investigations, may require any criminal justice agency to submit  
89 information, reports, and statistical data with respect to its policy and operation of information systems or  
90 with respect to its collection, storage, dissemination, and usage of criminal history record information and  
91 correctional status information, and such criminal justice agencies shall submit such information, reports, and  
92 data as are reasonably required;

93 20. Conduct audits as required by § 9.1-131;

94 21. Conduct a continuing study and review of questions of individual privacy and confidentiality of  
95 criminal history record information and correctional status information;

96 22. Advise criminal justice agencies and initiate educational programs for such agencies with respect to  
97 matters of privacy, confidentiality, and security as they pertain to criminal history record information and  
98 correctional status information;

99 23. Maintain a liaison with any board, commission, committee, or other body which may be established  
100 by law, executive order, or resolution to regulate the privacy and security of information collected by the  
101 Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof;

102 24. Adopt regulations establishing guidelines and standards for the collection, storage, and dissemination  
103 of criminal history record information and correctional status information, and the privacy, confidentiality,  
104 and security thereof necessary to implement state and federal statutes, regulations, and court orders;

105 25. Operate a statewide criminal justice research center, which shall maintain an integrated criminal  
106 justice information system, produce reports, provide technical assistance to state and local criminal justice  
107 data system users, and provide analysis and interpretation of criminal justice statistical information;

108 26. Develop a comprehensive, statewide, long-range plan for strengthening and improving law  
109 enforcement and the administration of criminal justice throughout the Commonwealth, and periodically  
110 update that plan;

111 27. Cooperate with, and advise and assist, all agencies, departments, boards and institutions of the  
112 Commonwealth, and units of general local government, or combinations thereof, including planning district  
113 commissions, in planning, developing, and administering programs, projects, comprehensive plans, and other  
114 activities for improving law enforcement and the administration of criminal justice throughout the  
115 Commonwealth, including allocating and subgranting funds for these purposes;

116 28. Define, develop, organize, encourage, conduct, coordinate, and administer programs, projects and  
117 activities for the Commonwealth and units of general local government, or combinations thereof, in the  
118 Commonwealth, designed to strengthen and improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal  
119 justice at every level throughout the Commonwealth;

120 29. Review and evaluate programs, projects, and activities, and recommend, where necessary, revisions or

121 alterations to such programs, projects, and activities for the purpose of improving law enforcement and the  
122 administration of criminal justice;

123 30. Coordinate the activities and projects of the state departments, agencies, and boards of the  
124 Commonwealth and of the units of general local government, or combination thereof, including planning  
125 district commissions, relating to the preparation, adoption, administration, and implementation of  
126 comprehensive plans to strengthen and improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal justice;

127 31. Do all things necessary on behalf of the Commonwealth and its units of general local government, to  
128 determine and secure benefits available under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (P.L.  
129 90-351, 82 Stat. 197), as amended, and under any other federal acts and programs for strengthening and  
130 improving law enforcement, the administration of criminal justice, and delinquency prevention and control;

131 32. Receive, administer, and expend all funds and other assistance available to the Board and the  
132 Department for carrying out the purposes of this chapter and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act  
133 of 1968, as amended;

134 33. Apply for and accept grants from the United States government or any other source in carrying out the  
135 purposes of this chapter and accept any and all donations both real and personal, and grants of money from  
136 any governmental unit or public agency, or from any institution, person, firm or corporation, and may  
137 receive, utilize and dispose of the same. Any arrangements pursuant to this section shall be detailed in the  
138 annual report of the Board. Such report shall include the identity of the donor, the nature of the transaction,  
139 and the conditions, if any. Any moneys received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state  
140 treasury to the account of the Department. To these ends, the Board shall have the power to comply with  
141 conditions and execute such agreements as may be necessary;

142 34. Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its  
143 duties and execution of its powers under this chapter, including but not limited to, contracts with the United  
144 States, units of general local government or combinations thereof, in Virginia or other states, and with  
145 agencies and departments of the Commonwealth;

146 35. Adopt and administer reasonable regulations for the planning and implementation of programs and  
147 activities and for the allocation, expenditure and subgranting of funds available to the Commonwealth and to  
148 units of general local government, and for carrying out the purposes of this chapter and the powers and duties  
149 set forth herein;

150 36. Certify and decertify law-enforcement officers in accordance with §§ 15.2-1706 and 15.2-1707 and  
151 provide for a decertification review process in accordance with § 15.2-1708;

152 37. Establish training standards and publish and periodically update model policies for law-enforcement  
153 personnel in the following subjects:

154 a. The handling of family abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases, including standards  
155 for determining the predominant physical aggressor in accordance with § 19.2-81.3. The Department shall  
156 provide technical support and assistance to law-enforcement agencies in carrying out the requirements set  
157 forth in subsection A of § 9.1-1301;

158 b. The identification of, communication with, and facilitation of the safe return of individuals diagnosed  
159 with Alzheimer's disease and dementia, which shall include (i) techniques for respectful and effective  
160 communication with individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia and their caregivers; (ii) techniques  
161 for addressing the behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, including alternatives to  
162 physical restraint; (iii) protocols for identifying and reporting incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of  
163 individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia to adult protective services; (iv) protocols for contacting  
164 caregivers when an individual with Alzheimer's disease or dementia is found wandering or during an  
165 emergency or crisis situation; (v) a reference list of local resources available for individuals with Alzheimer's  
166 disease and dementia; and (vi) a reference list of local and national organizations that assist law-enforcement  
167 personnel with locating missing and wandering individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia and  
168 returning them to their caregivers;

169 c. Sensitivity to and awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and the potential for  
170 racially biased policing and bias-based profiling as defined in § 52-30.1, which shall include recognizing  
171 implicit biases in interacting with persons who have a mental illness, substance use disorder, or  
172 developmental or cognitive disability;

173 d. Protocols for local and regional sexual assault and human trafficking response teams;

174 e. Communication of death notifications;

175 f. The questioning of individuals suspected of driving while intoxicated concerning the physical location  
176 of such individual's last consumption of an alcoholic beverage and the communication of such information to  
177 the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority;

178 g. Vehicle patrol duties that embody current best practices for pursuits and for responding to emergency  
179 calls;

180 h. Criminal investigations that embody current best practices for conducting photographic and live  
181 lineups;

182 i. Sensitivity to and awareness of human trafficking offenses and the identification of victims of human

183 trafficking offenses for personnel involved in criminal investigations or assigned to vehicle or street patrol  
184 duties;

185 j. The recognition, prevention, and reporting of human trafficking;

186 k. Missing children, missing adults, and search and rescue protocol;

187 l. The handling and use of tear gas or other gases and kinetic impact munitions, as defined in § 19.2-83.3,  
188 that embody current best practices for using such items as a crowd control measure or during an arrest or  
189 detention of another person; and

190 m. The use of naloxone or other opioid antagonists to prevent opioid overdose deaths, in coordination  
191 with statewide naloxone training programs developed by the Department of Behavioral Health and  
192 Developmental Services and the Virginia Department of Health;

193 38. Establish compulsory training standards for basic training and the recertification of law-enforcement  
194 officers to ensure (i) sensitivity to and awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and  
195 the potential for racially biased policing and bias-based profiling as defined in § 52-30.1, which shall include  
196 recognizing implicit biases in interacting with persons who have a mental illness, substance use disorder, or  
197 developmental or cognitive disability; (ii) training in de-escalation techniques; and (iii) training in the lawful  
198 use of force, including the use of deadly force, as defined in § 19.2-83.3, only when necessary to protect the  
199 law-enforcement officer or another person;

200 39. Review and evaluate community-policing programs in the Commonwealth, and recommend where  
201 necessary statewide operating procedures, guidelines, and standards that strengthen and improve such  
202 programs, including sensitivity to and awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and the  
203 potential for racially biased policing and bias-based profiling as defined in § 52-30.1, which shall include  
204 recognizing implicit biases in interacting with persons who have a mental illness, substance use disorder, or  
205 developmental or cognitive disability;

206 40. Establish a Virginia Law-Enforcement Accreditation Center. The Center may, in cooperation with  
207 Virginia law-enforcement agencies, provide technical assistance and administrative support, including  
208 staffing, for the establishment of voluntary state law-enforcement accreditation standards. The Center may  
209 provide accreditation assistance and training, resource material, and research into methods and procedures  
210 that will assist the Virginia law-enforcement community efforts to obtain Virginia accreditation status;

211 41. Promote community policing philosophy and practice throughout the Commonwealth by providing  
212 community policing training and technical assistance statewide to all law-enforcement agencies, community  
213 groups, public and private organizations and citizens; developing and distributing innovative policing  
214 curricula and training tools on general community policing philosophy and practice and contemporary critical  
215 issues facing Virginia communities; serving as a consultant to Virginia organizations with specific  
216 community policing needs; facilitating continued development and implementation of community policing  
217 programs statewide through discussion forums for community policing leaders, development of law-  
218 enforcement instructors; promoting a statewide community policing initiative; and serving as a statewide  
219 information source on the subject of community policing including, but not limited to periodic newsletters, a  
220 website and an accessible lending library;

221 42. Establish, in consultation with the Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime  
222 Commission, compulsory minimum standards for employment and job-entry and in-service training curricula  
223 and certification requirements for school security officers, including school security officers described in  
224 clause (b) of § 22.1-280.2:1, which training and certification shall be administered by the Virginia Center for  
225 School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) pursuant to § 9.1-184. Such training standards shall be specific to the  
226 role and responsibility of school security officers and shall include (i) relevant state and federal laws; (ii)  
227 school and personal liability issues; (iii) security awareness in the school environment; (iv) mediation and  
228 conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques such as a physical alternative to restraint; (v) disaster  
229 and emergency response; (vi) awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and implicit  
230 bias; (vii) working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance use disorders, and past  
231 traumatic experiences; and (viii) student behavioral dynamics, including child and adolescent development  
232 and brain research. The Department shall establish an advisory committee consisting of local school board  
233 representatives, principals, superintendents, and school security personnel to assist in the development of the  
234 standards and certification requirements in this subdivision. The Department shall require any school security  
235 officer who carries a firearm in the performance of his duties to provide proof that he has completed a  
236 training course provided by a federal, state, or local law-enforcement agency that includes training in active  
237 shooter emergency response, emergency evacuation procedure, and threat assessment;

238 43. License and regulate property bail bondsmen and surety bail bondsmen in accordance with Article 11  
239 (§ 9.1-185 et seq.);

240 44. License and regulate bail enforcement agents in accordance with Article 12 (§ 9.1-186 et seq.);

241 45. In conjunction with the Virginia State Police and the State Compensation Board, advise criminal  
242 justice agencies regarding the investigation, registration, and dissemination of information requirements as  
243 they pertain to the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry Act (§ 9.1-900 et seq.);

244 46. Establish minimum standards for (i) employment, (ii) job-entry and in-service training curricula, and

245 (iii) certification requirements for campus security officers. Such training standards shall include, but not be  
 246 limited to, the role and responsibility of campus security officers, relevant state and federal laws, school and  
 247 personal liability issues, security awareness in the campus environment, and disaster and emergency  
 248 response. The Department shall provide technical support and assistance to campus police departments and  
 249 campus security departments on the establishment and implementation of policies and procedures, including  
 250 but not limited to: the management of such departments, investigatory procedures, judicial referrals, the  
 251 establishment and management of databases for campus safety and security information sharing, and  
 252 development of uniform record keeping for disciplinary records and statistics, such as campus crime logs,  
 253 judicial referrals and Clery Act statistics. The Department shall establish an advisory committee consisting of  
 254 college administrators, college police chiefs, college security department chiefs, and local law-enforcement  
 255 officials to assist in the development of the standards and certification requirements and training pursuant to  
 256 this subdivision;

257 47. Assess and report, in accordance with § 9.1-190, the crisis intervention team programs established  
 258 pursuant to § 9.1-187;

259 48. In conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, advise law-enforcement agencies and  
 260 attorneys for the Commonwealth regarding the identification, investigation, and prosecution of human  
 261 trafficking offenses using the common law and existing criminal statutes in the Code of Virginia;

262 49. Register tow truck drivers in accordance with § 46.2-116 and carry out the provisions of § 46.2-117;

263 50. Administer the activities of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Program Professional  
 264 Standards Committee by providing technical assistance and administrative support, including staffing, for the  
 265 Committee;

266 51. In accordance with § 9.1-102.1, design and approve the issuance of photo-identification cards to  
 267 private security services registrants registered pursuant to Article 4 (§ 9.1-138 et seq.);

268 52. In consultation with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Virginia Association  
 269 of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, develop multidisciplinary curricula on trauma-informed sexual  
 270 assault investigation;

271 53. In consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, develop a  
 272 model addiction recovery program that may be administered by sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, jail officers,  
 273 administrators, or superintendents in any local or regional jail. Such program shall be based on any existing  
 274 addiction recovery programs that are being administered by any local or regional jails in the Commonwealth.  
 275 Participation in the model addiction recovery program shall be voluntary, and such program may address  
 276 aspects of the recovery process, including medical and clinical recovery, peer-to-peer support, availability of  
 277 mental health resources, family dynamics, and aftercare aspects of the recovery process;

278 54. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for certification and recertification of law-  
 279 enforcement officers serving as school resource officers. Such training shall be specific to the role and  
 280 responsibility of a law-enforcement officer working with students in a school environment and shall include  
 281 (i) relevant state and federal laws; (ii) school and personal liability issues; (iii) security awareness in the  
 282 school environment; (iv) mediation and conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques; (v) disaster  
 283 and emergency response; (vi) awareness of systemic and individual racism, cultural diversity, and implicit  
 284 bias; (vii) working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance use disorders, or past  
 285 traumatic experiences; and (viii) student behavioral dynamics, including current child and adolescent  
 286 development and brain research;

287 55. Establish a model policy for the operation of body-worn camera systems as defined in § 15.2-1723.1  
 288 that also addresses the storage and maintenance of body-worn camera system records;

289 56. Establish compulsory minimum training standards for detector canine handlers employed by the  
 290 Department of Corrections, standards for the training and retention of detector canines used by the  
 291 Department of Corrections, and a central database on the performance and effectiveness of such detector  
 292 canines that requires the Department of Corrections to submit comprehensive information on each canine  
 293 handler and detector canine, including the number and types of calls and searches, substances searched for  
 294 and whether or not detected, and the number of false positives, false negatives, true positives, and true  
 295 negatives;

296 57. Establish compulsory training standards for basic training of law-enforcement officers for recognizing  
 297 and managing stress, self-care techniques, and resiliency;

298 58. Establish guidelines and standards for psychological examinations conducted pursuant to subsection C  
 299 of § 15.2-1705;

300 59. Establish compulsory in-service training standards, to include frequency of retraining, for  
 301 law-enforcement officers in the following subjects: (i) relevant state and federal laws; (ii) awareness of  
 302 cultural diversity and the potential for bias-based profiling as defined in § 52-30.1; (iii) de-escalation  
 303 techniques; (iv) working with individuals with disabilities, mental health needs, or substance use disorders;  
 304 and (v) the lawful use of force, including the use of deadly force, as defined in § 19.2-83.3, only when  
 305 necessary to protect the law-enforcement officer or another person;

306 60. Develop a model curriculum and lesson plans for the compulsory minimum entry-level, in-service,

307 and advanced training standards to be employed by criminal justice training academies approved by the  
 308 Department when conducting training;

309 61. Adopt statewide professional standards of conduct applicable to all certified law-enforcement officers  
 310 and certified jail officers and appropriate due process procedures for decertification based on serious  
 311 misconduct in violation of those standards and provide for a decertification review process in accordance  
 312 with § 15.2-1708;

313 62. Establish and administer a waiver process, in accordance with §§ 2.2-5515 and 15.2-1721.1, for  
 314 law-enforcement agencies to use certain military property. Any waivers granted by the Criminal Justice  
 315 Services Board shall be published by the Department on the Department's website;

316 63. Establish compulsory training standards for basic training and the recertification of law-enforcement  
 317 officers to include crisis intervention training in accordance with clause (ii) of § 9.1-188;

318 64. Advise and assist the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and support local  
 319 law-enforcement cooperation, with the development and implementation of the Marcus alert system, as  
 320 defined in § 37.2-311.1, including the establishment of local protocols for law-enforcement participation in  
 321 the Marcus alert system pursuant to § 9.1-193 and for reporting requirements pursuant to §§ 9.1-193 and  
 322 37.2-311.1;

323 65. Develop an online course to train hotel proprietors and their employees to recognize and report  
 324 instances of suspected human trafficking;

325 66. Develop an online course to train unarmed security officers, armed security officers, couriers, security  
 326 canine handlers, and alarm respondents to recognize and report instances of suspected human trafficking to  
 327 meet the compulsory minimum, entry-level, and in-service training standards as required by § 9.1-141;

328 67. Establish standards and procedures for when the Board may grant a petition for reinstatement of  
 329 certification of a decertified officer pursuant to subsection E of § 15.2-1708;

330 68. Establish compulsory minimum and in-service training standards for law-enforcement officers on  
 331 communicating with individuals with an intellectual disability or a developmental disability as defined in §  
 332 37.2-100, such as autism spectrum disorder as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and  
 333 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association, which shall include (i) an  
 334 overview and behavioral recognition of autism spectrum disorder, (ii) best practices for crisis prevention and  
 335 de-escalation techniques, (iii) an objective review of any relevant tools and technology available to assist in  
 336 communication, and (iv) education on law-enforcement agency and community resources for the autism  
 337 community on future crisis prevention. Such training standards shall be established in consultation with at  
 338 least one individual with autism spectrum disorder, one family member of an individual with autism spectrum  
 339 disorder, one specialist who works with individuals with autism spectrum disorder, one representative from  
 340 the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and one representative from a state or  
 341 local law-enforcement agency; ~~and~~

342 69. *Establish statewide standards and procedures for the provision of security at places of religious*  
 343 *worship within the Commonwealth, including training for any law-enforcement officer, unarmed security*  
 344 *officer, or armed security officer providing such security about various religious traditions, services, or*  
 345 *activities that such law-enforcement officer, unarmed security officer, or armed security officer may*  
 346 *encounter while providing such security; and*

347 70. Perform such other acts as may be necessary or convenient for the effective performance of its duties.

348 **§ 9.1-116.11. Religious Place of Worship Security Services Fund; purpose; guidelines.**

349 A. *There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Religious*  
 350 *Place of Worship Security Services Fund, referred to in this section as "the Fund." The Fund shall be*  
 351 *established on the books of the Comptroller. All moneys accruing to the Fund, including funds appropriated*  
 352 *for such purpose and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on its behalf shall be*  
 353 *paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in*  
 354 *the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of*  
 355 *each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall*  
 356 *be used solely for the purposes of providing security to religious places of worship within the*  
 357 *Commonwealth. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on*  
 358 *warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the Director of the Department.*

359 B. *The Fund shall be administered by the Department and the Department shall adopt guidelines to make*  
 360 *funds available to local law-enforcement agencies, sheriff's departments, and religious places of worship*  
 361 *within the Commonwealth for the purpose of obtaining or hiring a law-enforcement officer, unarmed security*  
 362 *officer, or armed security officer to provide security at a religious place of worship during religious services*  
 363 *or activities.*

364 **§ 18.2-283. Carrying dangerous weapon to place of religious worship; penalty.**

365 A. If any person ~~carry~~ carries any gun, pistol, bowie knife, dagger, or other dangerous weapon, without  
 366 good and sufficient reason, to a place of worship while a meeting for religious purposes is being held at such  
 367 place, he ~~shall be~~ is guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor.

368 B. *The provisions of this section shall not apply to a law-enforcement officer as defined in § 9.1-101 or*

**369** *armed security officer as defined in § 9.1-138 licensed pursuant to Article 4 (§ 9.1-138 et seq.) of Chapter 1*  
**370** *of Title 9.1 while such law-enforcement officer or armed security officer is providing security to a place of*  
**371** *religious worship pursuant to the procedures set forth in accordance with § 9.1-102.*

**INTRODUCED**

**HB2594**