2025 SESSION

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SENATE BILL NO. 1101

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations on January 29, 205)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Hashmi)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-73.28, relating to Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Advisory Council.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

- 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-73.28 as follows:
- § 32.1-73.28. Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Advisory Council established; membership; duties.
- A. There is created within the Department of Health the Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Advisory Council (the Council). The Council shall consist of six members, to be appointed as follows:
 - 1. Two members to be appointed by the Governor;
- 2. Two members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; and
- 3. Two members of the Senate, one of whom shall represent the majority party and one of whom shall represent the minority party, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules.
- B. The Council shall include members with a mix of expertise or experience in clinical research or treatment of patients suffering from PTSD, TRD, MDD, TBI, suicidal ideation, veteran mental and behavioral health care, public health, and FDA Breakthrough Therapies research.
- C. The Council shall provide assistance and advise the Department on methods to support clinical research and implementation of FDA Breakthrough Therapies for the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder, treatment-resistant depression, major depressive disorder, or traumatic brain injury, which are conditions that disproportionately impact veterans and significantly increase the risk of suicide.
- 2. That appointments to the Breakthrough Therapies for Veteran Suicide Prevention Advisory Council shall be made within 60 days of the enactment of this act.