

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-134.03, relating to maternal
3 health; protocols and resources for hospitals and outpatient providers.

4 [S 1279]

5 Approved

6 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

7 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-134.03 as follows:

8 § 32.1-134.03. Maternal health; protocols and resources for hospitals and outpatient providers.

9 A. In order to improve maternal health outcomes and address the most common causes of maternal
10 mortality in the Commonwealth, the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative (VNPC) shall:

11 1. Develop training materials and standardized management protocols for inpatient providers regarding
12 the treatment of obstetric emergencies, the recognition of urgent maternal warning signs, and the transfer of
13 pregnant and postpartum patients, based on clinical safety bundles established by the Alliance for Innovation
14 on Maternal Health; and

15 2. Develop training materials and provider-specific checklists for outpatient providers regarding the
16 treatment of obstetric emergencies, the recognition of urgent maternal warning signs, and the transfer of
17 pregnant and postpartum patients, based on clinical safety bundles established by the Alliance for Innovation
18 on Maternal Health.

19 B. When developing such standardized protocols pursuant to subdivision A 1, VNPC shall collaborate
20 with facilities and account for their specific resources, patient populations, and care models.

21 C. All hospitals with an emergency department or labor and delivery, freestanding emergency
22 departments, and birthing centers as defined in § 63.2-1914 shall implement standardized protocols for
23 identifying and responding to obstetric emergencies, including obstetric hemorrhage, preeclampsia,
24 eclampsia, and other life-threatening conditions based on the protocols developed by the VNPC.

25 D. The VNPC shall collect data relating to the implementation of the standardized protocols pursuant to
26 subsection C and maternal health outcomes and submit a report on such data by October 1 of each year to
27 the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Education and
28 Health, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, the House Committee on Health and Human
29 Services, and the House Committee on Appropriations.