

# 2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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1 **SENATE BILL NO. 207**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 9, 2026

4 A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-283.9, relating to Sudden  
5 Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; protocol; information; training.

6 Patron—Pekarsky

7 Referred to Committee on Education and Health

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

9 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-283.9 as follows:**

10 *§ 32.1-283.9. Investigation of deaths involving Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy; protocol; information; training.*

11 A. For purposes of this section, "Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy" or "SUDEP" means the sudden  
12 and unexplained death of a healthy individual with epilepsy that is not by drowning, injury, or other known  
13 causes.

14 B. In any case involving a manner of death consistent with SUDEP, the Office of the Chief Medical  
15 Examiner shall (i) in addition to other information it deems appropriate, disclose its investigation into the  
16 cause of death in a full report, which shall include written findings pursuant to § 32.1-283, and (ii) within 30  
17 days of such finding refer the case to a public or private institution, which shall provide to the decedent's next  
18 of kin, if known, information regarding the benefits of and process for submitting the deceased's medical  
19 information, including information about the deceased's history of epilepsy and seizures, to the North  
20 American SUDEP Registry.

21 C. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner shall publish resources with information on SUDEP and a  
22 SUDEP death investigation form on its website.

23 D. The Chief Medical Examiner and all assistant medical examiners shall complete one hour of virtual  
24 training in the investigation of SUDEP per triennium. Newly appointed medical examiners shall complete  
25 such training within 90 days of appointment.

26 E. These duties shall be performed up to the amount funded by public and private institutions.

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