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1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 794**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-45.5, relating to Department of*
5 *Health; reduction of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths; report.*

6 Patron—Reaser

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-45.5 as follows:**10 **§ 32.1-45.5. Department to be lead agency to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose**
11 **deaths.**12 **A. The Department shall serve as the lead agency for coordination of activities to reduce rates of opioid**
13 **overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. In carrying out its duties, the Department shall**
14 **(i) develop a strategic plan to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the**
15 **Commonwealth, (ii) coordinate efforts across state agencies to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid**
16 **overdose deaths in the Commonwealth, and (iii) monitor the implementation and outcome of efforts to reduce**
17 **rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth. The Department shall revise the**
18 **plan developed pursuant to this subsection every five years to reflect changing priorities for the reduction of**
19 **rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose deaths in the Commonwealth.**20 **B. The Department shall work with the Secretaries of Health and Human Resources, Education, and**
21 **Public Safety and Homeland Security and such other stakeholders and state agencies as may be appropriate.**22 **C. The Department shall report annually to the General Assembly by December 1 regarding the**
23 **implementation of the plan and outcome of efforts to reduce rates of opioid overdose and opioid overdose**
24 **deaths in the Commonwealth.**

INTRODUCED

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