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SENATE BILL NO. 276

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations
on February 4, 2026)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Williams Graves)

A BILL to direct the Department of Corrections to convene a work group for the purpose of identifying policies or actions that would ensure meaningful opportunities for in-person visitation with incarcerated persons at state correctional facilities by approved visitors; report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

10 *1. § 1. That the Department of Corrections (the Department) shall convene a work group for the purpose of*
11 *identifying policies or actions that would ensure meaningful opportunities for in-person visitation with*
12 *incarcerated persons at state correctional facilities by Department-approved visitors. The work group shall*
13 *include the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, or his designee, and representatives from all*
14 *relevant stakeholders, including criminal justice reform organizations. The work group shall, at a minimum,*
15 *assess (i) policies that discourage the practice of rescinding in-person visitation privileges for reasons*
16 *unrelated to such visitation, including disciplinary reasons, while accounting for safety considerations and*
17 *(ii) mechanisms that track in-person visits offered, the length of in-person visits, and the reasons in-person*
18 *visits are curtailed or denied. The work group shall submit an executive summary and a report of its*
19 *findings to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2026.*