

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Corrections to develop*  
3 *agency guidelines for hiring peer recovery specialists with previous criminal convictions for compensated*  
4 *employment.*

5 [S 608]  
6 Approved

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

8 **1. § 1.** *That the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Corrections shall develop*  
9 *agency guidelines for hiring peer recovery specialists with previous criminal convictions for compensated*  
10 *employment. Such guidelines shall include provisions clarifying the requirements for employment in specific*  
11 *programs and positions operated by the Departments of Health and Corrections and include, at a minimum,*  
12 *language providing for employment of such individuals that is no more restrictive than the provisions of*  
13 *§ 37.2-314 of the Code of Virginia granting exceptions to the list of barrier crimes for individuals hired for*  
14 *compensated employment at an adult mental health or adult substance abuse treatment program.*