

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 19.2-389, as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia and to amend*
 3 *the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.2, relating to social work; licensure;*
 4 *criminal background check.*

5 [H 577]

6 Approved

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

8 **1. That § 19.2-389, as it shall become effective, of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and**
 9 **that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 54.1-3707.2 as follows:**

10 **§ 19.2-389. (Effective July 1, 2026) Dissemination of criminal history record information.**

11 A. Criminal history record information shall be disseminated, whether directly or through an intermediary,
 12 only to:

13 1. Authorized officers or employees of criminal justice agencies, as defined by § 9.1-101, for purposes of
 14 the administration of criminal justice and the screening of an employment application or review of
 15 employment by a criminal justice agency with respect to its own employees or applicants, and dissemination
 16 to the Virginia Parole Board, pursuant to this subdivision, of such information on all state-responsible
 17 inmates for the purpose of making parole determinations pursuant to subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 of
 18 § 53.1-136 shall include collective dissemination by electronic means every 30 days. For purposes of this
 19 subdivision, criminal history record information includes information sent to the Central Criminal Records
 20 Exchange pursuant to §§ 37.2-819 and 64.2-2014 when disseminated to any full-time or part-time employee
 21 of the State Police, a police department or sheriff's office that is a part of or administered by the
 22 Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof, and who is responsible for the prevention and detection
 23 of crime and the enforcement of the penal, traffic or highway laws of the Commonwealth for the purposes of
 24 the administration of criminal justice;

25 2. Such other individuals and agencies that require criminal history record information to implement a
 26 state or federal statute or executive order of the President of the United States or Governor that expressly
 27 refers to criminal conduct and contains requirements or exclusions expressly based upon such conduct, except
 28 that information concerning the arrest of an individual may not be disseminated to a noncriminal justice
 29 agency or individual if an interval of one year has elapsed from the date of the arrest and no disposition of the
 30 charge has been recorded and no active prosecution of the charge is pending;

31 3. Individuals and agencies pursuant to a specific agreement with a criminal justice agency to provide
 32 services required for the administration of criminal justice pursuant to that agreement which shall specifically
 33 authorize access to data, limit the use of data to purposes for which given, and ensure the security and
 34 confidentiality of the data;

35 4. Individuals and agencies for the express purpose of research, evaluative, or statistical activities pursuant
 36 to an agreement with a criminal justice agency that shall specifically authorize access to data, limit the use of
 37 data to research, evaluative, or statistical purposes, and ensure the confidentiality and security of the data;

38 5. Agencies of state or federal government that are authorized by state or federal statute or executive order
 39 of the President of the United States or Governor to conduct investigations determining employment
 40 suitability or eligibility for security clearances allowing access to classified information;

41 6. Individuals and agencies where authorized by court order or court rule;

42 7. Agencies of any political subdivision of the Commonwealth, public transportation companies owned,
 43 operated or controlled by any political subdivision, and any public service corporation that operates a public
 44 transit system owned by a local government for the conduct of investigations of applicants for employment,
 45 permit, or license whenever, in the interest of public welfare or safety, it is necessary to determine under a
 46 duly enacted ordinance if the past criminal conduct of a person with a conviction record would be compatible
 47 with the nature of the employment, permit, or license under consideration;

48 7a. Commissions created pursuant to the Transportation District Act of 1964 (§ 33.2-1900 et seq.) of Title
 49 33.2 and their contractors, for the conduct of investigations of individuals who have been offered a position
 50 of employment whenever, in the interest of public welfare or safety and as authorized in the Transportation
 51 District Act of 1964, it is necessary to determine if the past criminal conduct of a person with a conviction
 52 record would be compatible with the nature of the employment under consideration;

53 8. Public or private agencies when authorized or required by federal or state law or interstate compact to
 54 investigate (i) applicants for foster or adoptive parenthood or (ii) any individual, and the adult members of
 55 that individual's household, with whom the agency is considering placing a child or from whom the agency is
 56 considering removing a child due to abuse or neglect, on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis

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57 pursuant to §§ 63.2-901.1 and 63.2-1505, subject to the restriction that the data shall not be further
58 disseminated to any party other than a federal or state authority or court as may be required to comply with an
59 express requirement of law;

60 9. To the extent permitted by federal law or regulation, public service companies as defined in § 56-1, for
61 the conduct of investigations of applicants for employment when such employment involves personal contact
62 with the public or when past criminal conduct of an applicant would be incompatible with the nature of the
63 employment under consideration;

64 10. The appropriate authority for purposes of granting citizenship and for purposes of international travel,
65 including, but not limited to, issuing visas and passports;

66 11. A person requesting a copy of his own criminal history record information as defined in § 9.1-101 at
67 his cost, except that criminal history record information shall be supplied at no charge to a person who has
68 applied to be a volunteer with (i) a Virginia affiliate of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America; (ii) a volunteer
69 fire company; (iii) the Volunteer Emergency Families for Children; (iv) any affiliate of Prevent Child Abuse,
70 Virginia; (v) any Virginia affiliate of Compeer; or (vi) any board member or any individual who has been
71 offered membership on the board of a Crime Stoppers, Crime Solvers or Crime Line program as defined in
72 § 15.2-1713.1;

73 12. Administrators and board presidents of and applicants for licensure or registration as a child welfare
74 agency as defined in § 63.2-100 for dissemination to the Commissioner of Social Services' representative
75 pursuant to § 63.2-1702 for the conduct of investigations with respect to employees of and volunteers at such
76 facilities, caretakers, and foster and adoptive parent applicants of private child-placing agencies, pursuant to
77 §§ 63.2-1719, 63.2-1720, and 63.2-1721, subject to the restriction that the data shall not be further
78 disseminated by the facility or agency to any party other than the data subject, the Commissioner of Social
79 Services' representative or a federal or state authority or court as may be required to comply with an express
80 requirement of law for such further dissemination; however, nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to
81 prohibit the Commissioner of Social Services' representative from issuing written certifications regarding the
82 results of a background check that was conducted before July 1, 2021, in accordance with subsection J of
83 § 22.1-289.035 or § 22.1-289.039;

84 13. Administrators and board presidents of and applicants for licensure as a prescribed pediatric extended
85 care center for dissemination to the State Health Commissioner's representative pursuant to
86 §§ 32.1-162.15:1.5 and 32.1-162.15:1.10 for the conduct of investigations with respect to employees of and
87 volunteers at such centers, pursuant to § 32.1-162.15:1.17, subject to the restriction that the data shall not be
88 further disseminated by the center to any party other than the data subject, the State Health Commissioner's
89 representative, or a federal or state authority or court as may be required to comply with an express
90 requirement of law;

91 14. The Department of Social Services for the purpose of screening individuals as a condition of licensure,
92 employment, volunteering, or providing services on a regular basis in a licensed child welfare agency
93 pursuant to §§ 63.2-1721 and 63.2-1726 or foster or adoptive home approved by a child-placing agency
94 pursuant to § 63.2-901.1;

95 15. The school boards of the Commonwealth for the purpose of screening individuals who are offered or
96 who accept public school employment and those current school board employees for whom a report of arrest
97 has been made pursuant to § 19.2-83.1;

98 16. The Virginia Lottery for the conduct of investigations as set forth in the Virginia Lottery Law
99 (§ 58.1-4000 et seq.) and casino gaming as set forth in Chapter 41 (§ 58.1-4100 et seq.) of Title 58.1, and the
100 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for the conduct of investigations as set forth in Article
101 1.1:1 (§ 18.2-340.15 et seq.) of Chapter 8 of Title 18.2;

102 17. Licensed prescribed pediatric extended care centers for the conduct of investigations of applicants for
103 compensated employment and volunteers in licensed prescribed pediatric extended care centers pursuant to
104 § 32.1-162.15:1.17;

105 18. Licensed nursing homes, hospitals and home care organizations for the conduct of investigations of
106 applicants for compensated employment in licensed nursing homes pursuant to § 32.1-126.01, hospital
107 pharmacies pursuant to § 32.1-126.02, and home care organizations pursuant to § 32.1-162.9:1, subject to the
108 limitations set out in subsection E;

109 19. Licensed assisted living facilities and licensed adult day centers for the conduct of investigations of
110 applicants for compensated employment in licensed assisted living facilities and licensed adult day centers
111 pursuant to § 63.2-1720, subject to the limitations set out in subsection F;

112 20. The Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority for the conduct of investigations as set forth in
113 § 4.1-103.1;

114 21. The State Board of Elections and authorized officers and employees thereof and general registrars
115 appointed pursuant to § 24.2-110 in the course of conducting necessary investigations with respect to voter
116 registration, limited to any record of felony convictions;

117 22. The Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (the Commissioner) or his
118 designees for individuals who are committed to the custody of or being evaluated by the Commissioner

119 pursuant to §§ 19.2-168.1, 19.2-169.1, 19.2-169.2, 19.2-169.5, 19.2-169.6, 19.2-182.2, 19.2-182.3,
120 19.2-182.8, and 19.2-182.9 where such information may be beneficial for the purpose of placement,
121 evaluation, treatment, or discharge planning;

122 23. Any alcohol safety action program certified by the Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action
123 Program for (i) interventions with first offenders under § 18.2-251 or (ii) services to offenders under
124 § 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or 18.2-266.1;

125 24. Residential facilities for juveniles regulated or operated by the Department of Social Services, the
126 Department of Education, or the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for the
127 purpose of determining applicants' fitness for employment or for providing volunteer or contractual services;

128 25. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and facilities operated by the
129 Department for the purpose of determining an individual's fitness for employment pursuant to departmental
130 instructions;

131 26. Pursuant to § 22.1-296.3, the governing boards or administrators of private elementary or secondary
132 schools which are accredited pursuant to § 22.1-19 or a private organization coordinating such records
133 information on behalf of such governing boards or administrators pursuant to a written agreement with the
134 Department of State Police;

135 27. Public institutions of higher education and nonprofit private institutions of higher education for the
136 purpose of screening individuals who are offered or accept employment;

137 28. Members of a threat assessment team established by a local school board pursuant to § 22.1-79.4, by a
138 public institution of higher education pursuant to § 23.1-805, or by a private nonprofit institution of higher
139 education, for the purpose of assessing or intervening with an individual whose behavior may present a threat
140 to safety; however, no member of a threat assessment team shall redisclose any criminal history record
141 information obtained pursuant to this section or otherwise use any record of an individual beyond the purpose
142 that such disclosure was made to the threat assessment team;

143 29. Executive directors of community services boards or the personnel director serving the community
144 services board for the purpose of determining an individual's fitness for employment, approval as a sponsored
145 residential service provider, permission to enter into a shared living arrangement with a person receiving
146 medical assistance services pursuant to a waiver, or permission for any person under contract with the
147 community services board to serve in a direct care position on behalf of the community services board
148 pursuant to §§ 37.2-506, 37.2-506.1, and 37.2-607;

149 30. Executive directors of behavioral health authorities as defined in § 37.2-600 for the purpose of
150 determining an individual's fitness for employment, approval as a sponsored residential service provider,
151 permission to enter into a shared living arrangement with a person receiving medical assistance services
152 pursuant to a waiver, or permission for any person under contract with the behavioral health authority to
153 serve in a direct care position on behalf of the behavioral health authority pursuant to §§ 37.2-506,
154 37.2-506.1, and 37.2-607;

155 31. The Commissioner of Social Services for the purpose of locating persons who owe child support or
156 who are alleged in a pending paternity proceeding to be a putative father, provided that only the name,
157 address, demographics and social security number of the data subject shall be released;

158 32. Authorized officers or directors of agencies licensed pursuant to Article 2 (§ 37.2-403 et seq.) of
159 Chapter 4 of Title 37.2 by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services for the purpose
160 of determining if any applicant who accepts employment in any direct care position or requests approval as a
161 sponsored residential service provider, permission to enter into a shared living arrangement with a person
162 receiving medical assistance services pursuant to a waiver, or permission for any person under contract with
163 the provider to serve in a direct care position has been convicted of a crime that affects his fitness to have
164 responsibility for the safety and well-being of individuals with mental illness, intellectual disability, or
165 substance abuse pursuant to §§ 37.2-416, 37.2-416.1, 37.2-506, 37.2-506.1, and 37.2-607;

166 33. The Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, for the purpose of evaluating applicants for
167 and holders of a motor carrier certificate or license subject to the provisions of Chapters 20 (§ 46.2-2000 et
168 seq.) and 21 (§ 46.2-2100 et seq.) of Title 46.2;

169 34. The Chairman of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice or the Chairman of the House Committee
170 for Courts of Justice for the purpose of determining if any person being considered for election to any
171 judgeship has been convicted of a crime;

172 35. Heads of state agencies in which positions have been identified as sensitive for the purpose of
173 determining an individual's fitness for employment in positions designated as sensitive under Department of
174 Human Resource Management policies developed pursuant to § 2.2-1201.1;

175 36. The Office of the Attorney General, for all criminal justice activities otherwise permitted under
176 subdivision 1 and for purposes of performing duties required by the Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent
177 Predators Act (§ 37.2-900 et seq.);

178 37. Shipyards, to the extent permitted by federal law or regulation, engaged in the design, construction,
179 overhaul, or repair of nuclear vessels for the United States Navy, including their subsidiary companies, for
180 the conduct of investigations of applications for employment or for access to facilities, by contractors, leased

181 laborers, and other visitors;

182 38. Any employer of individuals whose employment requires that they enter the homes of others, for the
183 purpose of screening individuals who apply for, are offered, or have accepted such employment;

184 39. Public agencies when and as required by federal or state law to investigate (i) applicants as providers
185 of adult foster care and home-based services or (ii) any individual with whom the agency is considering
186 placing an adult on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis pursuant to § 63.2-1601.1, subject to the
187 restriction that the data shall not be further disseminated by the agency to any party other than a federal or
188 state authority or court as may be required to comply with an express requirement of law for such further
189 dissemination, subject to limitations set out in subsection G;

190 40. The Department of Medical Assistance Services, or its designee, for the purpose of screening
191 individuals who, through contracts, subcontracts, or direct employment, volunteer, apply for, are offered, or
192 have accepted a position related to the provision of transportation services to enrollees in the Medicaid
193 Program or the Family Access to Medical Insurance Security (FAMIS) Program, or any other program
194 administered by the Department of Medical Assistance Services;

195 41. The State Corporation Commission for the purpose of investigating individuals who are current or
196 proposed members, senior officers, directors, and principals of an applicant or person licensed under Chapter
197 16 (§ 6.2-1600 et seq.), Chapter 19.1 (§ 6.2-1922 et seq.), or Chapter 26 (§ 6.2-2600 et seq.) of Title 6.2.
198 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if an application is denied based in whole or in part on
199 information obtained from the Central Criminal Records Exchange pursuant to Chapter 16, 19, or 26 of Title
200 6.2, the Commissioner of Financial Institutions or his designee may disclose such information to the applicant
201 or its designee;

202 42. The Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation for the purpose of investigating
203 individuals for initial licensure pursuant to § 54.1-2106.1;

204 43. The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and the Department for the Blind and Vision
205 Impaired for the purpose of evaluating an individual's fitness for various types of employment and for the
206 purpose of delivering comprehensive vocational rehabilitation services pursuant to Article 11 (§ 51.5-170 et
207 seq.) of Chapter 14 of Title 51.5 that will assist the individual in obtaining employment;

208 44. Bail bondsmen, in accordance with the provisions of § 19.2-120;

209 45. The State Treasurer for the purpose of determining whether a person receiving compensation for
210 wrongful incarceration meets the conditions for continued compensation under § 8.01-195.12;

211 46. The Department of Education or its agents or designees for the purpose of screening individuals
212 seeking to enter into a contract with the Department of Education or its agents or designees for the provision
213 of child care services for which child care subsidy payments may be provided;

214 47. The Department of Juvenile Justice to investigate any parent, guardian, or other adult members of a
215 juvenile's household when completing a predispositional or postdispositional report required by § 16.1-273 or
216 a Board of Juvenile Justice regulation promulgated pursuant to § 16.1-233;

217 48. The State Corporation Commission, for the purpose of screening applicants for insurance licensure
218 under Chapter 18 (§ 38.2-1800 et seq.) of Title 38.2;

219 49. Administrators and board presidents of and applicants for licensure or registration as a child day
220 program or family day system, as such terms are defined in § 22.1-289.02, for dissemination to the
221 Superintendent of Public Instruction's representative pursuant to § 22.1-289.013 for the conduct of
222 investigations with respect to employees of and volunteers at such facilities pursuant to §§ 22.1-289.034
223 through 22.1-289.037, subject to the restriction that the data shall not be further disseminated by the facility
224 or agency to any party other than the data subject, the Superintendent of Public Instruction's representative, or
225 a federal or state authority or court as may be required to comply with an express requirement of law for such
226 further dissemination; however, nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prohibit the Superintendent
227 of Public Instruction's representative from issuing written certifications regarding the results of prior
228 background checks in accordance with subsection J of § 22.1-289.035 or § 22.1-289.039;

229 50. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for the purpose of screening individuals who
230 are offered or accept employment or will be providing volunteer or contractual services with the National
231 Center for Missing and Exploited Children;

232 51. The Executive Director or investigators of the Board of Accountancy for the purpose of the
233 enforcement of laws relating to the Board of Accountancy in accordance with § 54.1-4407; and

234 52. Other entities as otherwise provided by law.

235 Upon an ex parte motion of a defendant in a felony case and upon the showing that the records requested
236 may be relevant to such case, the court shall enter an order requiring the Central Criminal Records Exchange
237 to furnish the defendant, as soon as practicable, copies of any records of persons designated in the order on
238 whom a report has been made under the provisions of this chapter.

239 Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, upon a written request sworn to
240 before an officer authorized to take acknowledgments, the Central Criminal Records Exchange, or the
241 criminal justice agency in cases of offenses not required to be reported to the Exchange, shall furnish a copy
242 of conviction data covering the person named in the request to the person making the request; however, such

243 person on whom the data is being obtained shall consent in writing, under oath, to the making of such
 244 request. A person receiving a copy of his own conviction data may utilize or further disseminate that data as
 245 he deems appropriate. In the event no conviction data is maintained on the data subject, the person making
 246 the request shall be furnished at his cost a certification to that effect.

247 B. Use of criminal history record information disseminated to noncriminal justice agencies under this
 248 section shall be limited to the purposes for which it was given and may not be disseminated further, except as
 249 otherwise provided in subdivision A 49.

250 C. No criminal justice agency or person shall confirm the existence or nonexistence of criminal history
 251 record information for employment or licensing inquiries except as provided by law.

252 D. Criminal justice agencies shall establish procedures to query the Central Criminal Records Exchange
 253 prior to dissemination of any criminal history record information on offenses required to be reported to the
 254 Central Criminal Records Exchange to ensure that the most up-to-date disposition data is being used.
 255 Inquiries of the Exchange shall be made prior to any dissemination except in those cases where time is of the
 256 essence and the normal response time of the Exchange would exceed the necessary time period. A criminal
 257 justice agency to whom a request has been made for the dissemination of criminal history record information
 258 that is required to be reported to the Central Criminal Records Exchange may direct the inquirer to the
 259 Central Criminal Records Exchange for such dissemination. Dissemination of information regarding offenses
 260 not required to be reported to the Exchange shall be made by the criminal justice agency maintaining the
 261 record as required by § 15.2-1722.

262 E. Criminal history information provided to licensed nursing homes, hospitals and to home care
 263 organizations pursuant to subdivision A 18 shall be limited to the convictions on file with the Exchange for
 264 any offense specified in §§ 32.1-126.01, 32.1-126.02, and 32.1-162.9:1.

265 F. Criminal history information provided to licensed assisted living facilities and licensed adult day
 266 centers pursuant to subdivision A 19 shall be limited to the convictions on file with the Exchange for any
 267 offense specified in § 63.2-1720.

268 G. Criminal history information provided to public agencies pursuant to subdivision A 39 shall be limited
 269 to the convictions on file with the Exchange for any offense set forth in clause (i) of the definition of barrier
 270 crime in § 19.2-392.02.

271 H. Upon receipt of a written request from an employer or prospective employer, the Central Criminal
 272 Records Exchange, or the criminal justice agency in cases of offenses not required to be reported to the
 273 Exchange, shall furnish at the employer's cost a copy of conviction data covering the person named in the
 274 request to the employer or prospective employer making the request, provided that the person on whom the
 275 data is being obtained has consented in writing to the making of such request and has presented a photo-
 276 identification to the employer or prospective employer. In the event no conviction data is maintained on the
 277 person named in the request, the requesting employer or prospective employer shall be furnished at his cost a
 278 certification to that effect. The criminal history record search shall be conducted on forms provided by the
 279 Exchange.

280 I. The attorney for the Commonwealth shall provide a physical or electronic copy of a person's criminal
 281 history record information, including criminal history record information maintained in the National Crime
 282 Information Center (NCIC) and the Interstate Identification Index System (III System) that is in his
 283 possession, pursuant to the rules of court for obtaining discovery or for review by the court. No criminal
 284 history record information provided under this subsection shall be disseminated further.

285 *J. Criminal history record information obtained from a national criminal history record check conducted*
 286 *for employment or licensing purposes pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 41101 shall only be disseminated to a federal,*
 287 *state, or local government agency or entity. A state or local government agency or entity that receives any*
 288 *criminal history record information obtained from a national criminal history record check conducted for*
 289 *employment or licensing purposes pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 41101 shall not disseminate such information to*
 290 *any private person or entity.*

291 **§ 54.1-3707.2. Criminal background check.**

292 *The Board shall require each applicant for licensure as a baccalaureate social worker, master's social*
 293 *worker, or clinical social worker to submit fingerprints and provide personal descriptive information to be*
 294 *forwarded along with his fingerprints through the Central Criminal Records Exchange to the Federal Bureau*
 295 *of Investigation for the purpose of obtaining criminal history record information regarding the applicant. The*
 296 *cost of fingerprinting and the criminal history record search shall be paid by the applicant.*

297 *The Central Criminal Records Exchange shall forward the results of the state and federal criminal history*
 298 *record search to the Board, which shall be a governmental entity. If an applicant is denied licensure because*
 299 *of information appearing on his criminal history record and the applicant disputes the information upon*
 300 *which the denial was based, the Central Criminal Records Exchange shall, upon written request, furnish to*
 301 *the applicant the procedures for obtaining a copy of the criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of*
 302 *Investigation and the Central Criminal Records Exchange. Such information shall not be disseminated except*
 303 *as provided in this section.*

304 **2. That the provisions of § 19.2-389 of the Code of Virginia, as amended by this act, shall become**

305 effective on July 1, 2027.

306 3. That the Department of State Police (the Department) shall convene a work group to review (i)
307 federal Department of Justice concerns with the dissemination of criminal history record information
308 obtained from national criminal history record checks for employment and licensing purposes in
309 Virginia; (ii) whether Virginia laws relating to the dissemination of criminal history record
310 information clearly distinguish between practices for in-state records as opposed to national records;
311 and (iii) any consequences that may result from Virginia amending its laws to more clearly distinguish
312 between the dissemination of in-state and national criminal history records. The work group shall
313 include a representative of the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, the Executive
314 Director of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission or his designee, the Executive Director of the
315 Virginia State Crime Commission or his designee, the Director of the Virginia Department of Criminal
316 Justice Services or his designee, the Director of the Virginia Department of Professional and
317 Occupational Regulation or his designee, the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his designee, a
318 representative from the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, the Director of the
319 Department of Health Professions or his designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Social
320 Services or his designee, the Director of the Department of Human Resource Management or his
321 designee, a member of the staff of the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, a member of
322 the staff of the House Committee on Appropriations, and any other relevant stakeholders. The
323 Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly
324 by December 1, 2026.