

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Support	HB 98	Medicaid eligibility; young adults transitioning from foster care. Requires the Department of Medical Assistance Services to amend the state plan to provide for the payment of medical assistance, pursuant to The Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, for any individual who (i) was receiving foster care services on his eighteenth birthday, (ii) continues to receive independent living services pursuant to § 63.2-905.1, and (iii) has not yet reached his twenty-first birthday. Such individuals shall not be subject to Medicaid income limits.	02/12/08 House: Left in Appropriations
Support	HB 310	Elections; absentee voting. Extends to persons with any disability or illness, rather than only a "physical" disability or illness, the ability to obtain an absentee ballot and provides a definition for "person with a disability."	02/08/08 House: Continued to 2009 in Privileges and Elections
Oppose	HB 365	Substance abuse screening and assessment of public assistance applicants and recipients. Requires local departments of social services to conduct a screening of all applicants or recipients of public assistance. This bill provides that, where a screening indicates reasonable cause to believe an applicant or recipient is using illegal drugs, the applicant or recipient may be required to submit to drug testing. Where a drug test indicates that the applicant or recipient is using illegal drugs, the person shall become ineligible for public assistance. The person may reapply for public assistance once 12 months have elapsed from the date of initial ineligibility 01/25/08 House: Committee substitute printed 088555460-H1	02/12/08 House: Left in Appropriations

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Monitor	HB 366	<p>Unemployment compensation; testing for controlled substances. Disqualifies an individual from receiving unemployment compensation benefits if he is discharged from employment as a result of a confirmed positive test for a nonprescribed controlled substance conducted in a United States Department of Transportation-qualified drug screen. In addition, an unemployed individual who applies for benefits is disqualified if he has been rejected for offered employment as the result of either (i) failing to appear for such a drug screen that is a condition of a job offer or (ii) testing positive for a nonprescribed controlled substance in such a drug screen. Currently, an individual is ineligible for unemployment benefits if he fails a drug test conducted in accordance with scientifically recognized standards by a laboratory accredited by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, or the College of American Pathology, or the American Association for Clinical Chemistry, or the equivalent. In addition, the provision that currently permits the Virginia Employment Commission to consider evidence of mitigating circumstances in determining whether misconduct occurred is repealed.</p> <p>01/18/08 House: Committee substitute printed 080133460-H1</p>	<p>: 03/06/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/09/08 Senate: Signed by President</p>
Support	HB 475	<p>Department of Veterans Services; mental health and rehabilitative services. Requires that the Department, in cooperation with the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Rehabilitative Services, shall establish a program to monitor and coordinate mental health and rehabilitative services support for Virginia veterans and members of the Virginia National Guard and Virginia residents in the Armed Forces Reserves not in active federal service.</p>	<p>03/05/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/06/08 Senate: Signed by President 03/12/08 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 584 (effective 7/1/08)</p>

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Oppose	HB 671	<p>Parental notification; student's receipt of mental health treatment. Requires parental notification from administrative or instructional personnel and school counselors and psychologists who as a result of direct communication with a student have reason to believe that such student is suicidal or is at risk of harming others. In addition, requires parental notification of a student's receipt of mental health treatment for suicidal tendencies or other behavior indicating that such student may be an imminent danger to others.</p>	<p>02/04/08 House: Incorporated by Education (HB1005-Bell) by voice</p> <p>HB1005-02/29/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/03/08 Senate: Signed by President 03/07/08 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 441 (effective 7/1/08) 03/14/08 Governor: Acts of Assembly Chapter text (CHAP0441)</p>
Oppose	HB 707	<p>Temporary custody orders; secure facility. States that a person who is subject to an involuntary commitment hearing under a temporary detention order shall be held in custody until released to a secure facility or released from custody by court order.</p> <p>01/24/08 House: Committee substitute printed 088566568-H1</p>	<p>03/06/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/09/08 Senate: Signed by President</p>

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Monitor	HB 499	<p>Involuntary commitment. Establishes a new standard for involuntary outpatient commitment authorizing involuntary commitment where the person has a mental illness and there exists a substantial likelihood that, as a result of mental illness, the person will, in the near future (i) cause serious physical harm to himself or others as evidenced by recent behavior causing, attempting, or threatening harm, or (ii) suffer serious harm due to substantial deterioration of his capacity to protect himself from harm or to provide for his basic human needs. This bill also requires a provider of mental health services to disclose records to a magistrate, the court, the person's attorney, the examiner, a community services board (CSB) or behavioral health authority, or law-enforcement officer; authorizes a single four-hour extension of an emergency custody order; provides that a person under a temporary detention order may be released prior to 48 hours after the order is executed if the person does not pose a danger to himself or others; specifies records and evidence that must be reviewed prior to an independent examination; requires that a representative of the CSB preparing the preadmission screening report attend each commitment hearing; establishes additional requirements for outpatient commitment; requires an outpatient treatment plan be filed with the outpatient order; and clarifies the monitoring duty of the community services board.</p> <p>01/30/08 House: Committee substitute printed 081467432-H1</p>	<p>03/07/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/09/08 Senate: Signed by President</p>
Support	SB 47	<p>Advance directives; mental health. Allows for mental health advance directives, by following the same procedures as for medical advance directives. A mental health advance directive may set forth procedures or instructions with regard to mental health treatment, including consent to or refusal of mental health treatment</p>	<p>01/31/08 Senate: Left in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N) 01/31/08 Senate: Subject matter referred to Commission on Mental Health Law Reform pursuant to Senate Rule 20 (L)</p>

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Support	SB 64	<p>Community services boards; core services. Adds crisis stabilization, outpatient, respite, in-home, and residential and housing services to the list of core services required to be provided by community services boards.</p>	<p>01/31/08 Senate: Left in Education and Health (15-Y 0-N) 01/31/08 Senate: Subject matter referred to Commission on Mental Health Law Reform pursuant to Senate Rule 20 (L)</p>
Monitor	SB 246	<p>Involuntary commitment. Establishes a new standard for involuntary outpatient commitment authorizing involuntary commitment where the person has a mental illness and there exists a substantial likelihood that, as a result of mental illness, the person will, in the near future (i) cause serious physical harm to himself or others as evidenced by recent behavior causing, attempting, or threatening harm, or (ii) suffer serious harm due to substantial deterioration of his capacity to protect himself from harm or to provide for his basic human needs. This bill also requires a provider of mental health services to disclose records to a magistrate, the court, the person's attorney, the examiner, a community services board (CSB) or behavioral health authority, or law-enforcement officer; authorizes a single four-hour extension of an emergency custody order; provides that a person under a temporary detention order may be released prior to 48 hours after the order is executed if the person does not pose a danger to himself or others; specifies records and evidence that must be reviewed prior to an independent examination; requires that a representative of the CSB preparing the preadmission screening report attend each commitment hearing; establishes additional requirements for outpatient commitment; requires an outpatient treatment plan be filed with the outpatient order; and clarifies the monitoring duty of the community services board..</p> <p>01/29/08 Senate: Committee substitute printed 081542248-S1</p>	<p>03/08/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/11/08 Senate: Signed by President</p>

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2008 General Assembly 03/28/08

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Support	SB18	Mental health courts; pilot program. Directs the Office of the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court to establish by January 1, 2009, no less than two and no more than five mental health courts in Virginia for nonviolent offenders with serious mental illnesses.	02/13/08 Senate: Continued to 2009 in Finance (16-Y 0-N)
Support	SB 67	Parental admission of minors for inpatient treatment; minors incapable of giving consent. Provides that minors 14 years of age or older who are incapable of giving informed consent may be admitted to inpatient treatment upon the application of a parent. The bill also defines the term "incapable of giving informed consent."	02/21/08 House: Signed by Speaker 02/25/08 Senate: Signed by President 03/02/08 Governor: Approved by Governor-Chapter 139 (effective 7/1/08) 03/05/08 Governor: Acts of Assembly Chapter text (CHAP0139)
Support	SB 138	Medical and psychiatric benefits for prisoners. Requires the Department of Corrections to take reasonable steps to identify any benefits, including any Social Security or Veterans Administration benefits, for which a prisoner may be eligible and take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that benefits are available to the prisoner at the time of release.	01/25/08 Senate: Continued to 2009 in Rehabilitation and Social Services (15-Y 0-N)
Support	SB297	Veterans Services; mental health program. Requires the Commissioner of Veterans Services to establish, in cooperation with the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Rehabilitative Services, a comprehensive program to address the unique mental health needs of veterans, including post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries, and seek additional federal, state, and private sources of funding for such program.	03/08/08 House: Signed by Speaker 03/11/08 Senate: Signed by President

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
Support	SJ 7	Constitutional amendment (first resolution); restoration of civil rights. Authorizes the General Assembly to provide by general law for the restoration of civil rights for persons convicted of nonviolent felonies who have completed service of their sentence including any period or condition of probation, parole, or suspension of sentence. The present Constitution provides for restoration of rights by the Governor. The amendment retains the right of the Governor to restore civil rights and adds the alternative for restoration of rights pursuant to general law.	01/15/08 Senate: Continued to 2009 in Privileges and Elections (15-Y 0-N)
Monitor	HB 267	Involuntary commitment; enforcement of compliance with outpatient treatment. Allows the judge or special justice when presiding over a civil commitment hearing to consider testimony from close family members as to the respondent's conduct and treatment history. The bill also allows for civil involuntary outpatient commitment for a person whose past commitment history and psychosis diagnosis indicated that when they are not taking their medicine they meet the involuntary commitment standard. The measure provides for the person to be transferred from inpatient to outpatient treatment upon a petition and a supporting affidavit from a psychologist or psychiatrist and allows a judge or special justice to bring a person back before him for a hearing for material noncompliance with an outpatient treatment order. 01/28/08 House: Committee substitute printed 081472404-H1	02/28/08 Senate: Subject matter referred to Commission on Mental Health Law Reform pursuant to Senate Rule 20 (L)
Support	HB 480	Conditional release; voluntary admission to a state hospital. Clarifies that voluntary admission to a state hospital shall not solely constitute grounds for revocation of a person's conditional release.	02/08/08 House: Tabled in Courts of Justice by voice vote
Oppose	HB706	Temporary detention order; transportation to a medical facility for assessment. Allows a magistrate to issue a temporary detention order, without a face-to-face evaluation, for the purposes of transportation to a medical facility for	01/24/08 House: Stricken from docket by Health, Welfare and Institutions by voice vote

MHAV's Position	Bill Number	Summary	Status
		assessment.	
Oppose	HB751	Involuntary hearing results; accessibility by colleges and universities. Allows colleges and universities to access the outcome of an involuntary commitment hearing by making a motion to the court.	01/29/08 House: Continued to 2009 in Health, Welfare and Institutions by voice vote

For a complete history of each bill or definition of terms go to <http://legis.state.va.us/>