

## **SB569 Workgroup**

*Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services*

Thursday, June 5, 2025 | 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/88984790217?pwd=jnWnoHOAVIaYA12hdmGMYYVtbsw6KP7.1>

Meeting ID: 889 8479 0217 Passcode: 641596

### **AGENDA – Meeting Two**

2:30 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Background – DBHDS</b>
2:40 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.	<b>Project Overview &amp; Contractor Introduction – Blue Octopus Consulting (BOC)</b>
2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<b>Who’s in the Room? – BOC</b>
3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<b>Provider Survey Highlights – BOC</b>
3:15 p.m. – 3:25 p.m.	<b>Public Comments – Open Forum</b>
3:25 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.	<b>Small Group Discussions – BOC</b>
3:50 p.m. – 4:05 p.m.	<b>Group Report-Outs &amp; Themes – BOC</b>
4:05 p.m. – 4:20 p.m.	<b>Seclusion/Restraint Data Summary – DBHDS</b>
4:20 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Closing &amp; Next Steps – BOC</b>

### **Workgroup enactment language:**

“The Department shall convene a work group to propose additional regulations to allow for the use of (i) evidence-based and recovery-oriented seclusion and restraint practices and (ii) alternative behavior management practices that may limit or replace the use of seclusion and restraint in hospitals, residential programs, and licensed facilities. In developing such regulations, the work group shall (a) solicit input from experts in the field of behavioral health, persons with relevant lived experience with the Commonwealth's behavioral health system, and staff from both public and private providers; (b) review any data and other information made available by the Department regarding seclusion and restraint, serious incidents, and complaints and investigations regarding the misuse of seclusion and restraint; (c) review current regulations and training policies; (d) examine practices used in other states, best practice recommendations from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and evidence-based and trauma-informed practices recommended by other national experts; (e) identify practices and approaches that safely de-escalate persons in crisis and reduce or replace the use of seclusion and

restraint; and (f) identify staffing, training, and monitoring practices related to seclusion and restraint and that limit and ensure the appropriate use of seclusion and restraint. The work group shall include the Secretary of Health and Human Resources or his designee; the Commissioner of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services or his designee; staff from public and private facilities, including frontline workers with treatment experience; at least three mental health consumers; representatives of the disAbility Law Center of Virginia; representatives of the Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy at the University of Virginia; staff representatives of community services boards; at least one member of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and at least one member of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The Department may seek assistance from faculty and students of institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and, subject to the availability of funding, may contract with a third-party expert to lead and advise the work group. The Department shall submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed regulations to the General Assembly by November 1, 2025.”