

VIRGINIA COMMISSION ON YOUTH
Study on Legal Guardianship of a Minor by Court Petition
Draft Recommendations

Guardianship:

Recommendation 1

Request that the Virginia Department of Social Services convene a study group with impacted stakeholders to study ways to develop full/permanent, temporary, and limited guardianship in Virginia to reflect the need for additional permanency goals for children. Further, request that the Virginia Department of Social Services complete its study and submit a final report with recommendations the Commission on Youth and Governor by December 1, 2021.

For this work group, the Virginia Department of Social Services shall collaborate with the family bar coalition, family law attorneys, the Supreme Court of Virginia, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court judges, local departments of social services, advocates, parents, and any other interested stakeholders that it deems appropriate.

Family Partnership Meetings:

Recommendation 2

Request the Board of Social Services develop regulations for the use of family partnership meetings by local departments.

Kinship Navigator:

Recommendation 3

Introduce a budget amendment to enact funding for a statewide Kinship Navigator Program. The budget amendment amount will be based on input from the Virginia Department of Social Services.