

2000 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 176

Offered January 24, 2000

Directing the Joint Commission on Health Care to study the provision of emergency health services in the public schools of the Commonwealth.

Patrons—Baskerville, Brink, Christian, Cranwell, Crittenden, Darner, Moran, Robinson, Spruill, Tate, Van Landingham and Woodrum; Senator: Lambert

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the health and safety of our children is a primary concern of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, all schools need to be in readiness to help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies; and

WHEREAS, medical conditions and emergencies are common in the public schools and the readiness of the personnel to handle such emergencies varies across the state; and

WHEREAS, although certain health services are required under law to be provided by the several school divisions, the provision of sophisticated services is expensive and requires the expenditure of funds that have been allocated for the delivery of educational services; and

WHEREAS, educational services can only be of benefit if the children are safe and healthy; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia needs data about how well school personnel are prepared to provide first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, sports safety/care, and infection control measures; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Commission on Health Care is directed to study the provision of emergency health services in the public schools of the Commonwealth, including, but not limited to:

1. How many, and which, localities require first aid and/or CPR training for all of their school personnel, including school bus drivers;

2. What kind of training is required, and how many hours of training are required; and

3. What requirements are in place for refresher courses for this training.

In conducting this study, the Joint Commission on Health Care shall seek input from the education community, including school nurses, teachers, school boards and division superintendents.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Joint Commission on Health Care, upon request.

The Joint Commission on Health Care shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2001 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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