006514856

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 384

Offered January 28, 2000

Recognizing the need to inform medical care providers of the means to combat antibiotic resistance.

————————

Patron—Morgan

————————

Consent to introduce

————————

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

————————

WHEREAS, antibiotic-resistant infections are more likely to produce adverse health outcomes and are more costly to treat than susceptible infections; and

WHEREAS the widespread use of antibiotics has increased the type and incidence of bacteria that are resistant to treatment by antibiotics; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance is caused by the overuse of antibiotics in general and the overuse of selected agents in particular; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, the rate of penicillin resistance increased by more than 300 percent, and the rate of cefotaxime resistance increased by more than 1000 percent; and

WHEREAS, patients infected with antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria can require hospitalization when otherwise unnecessary and be subject to an increased rate of death; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance increases pharmaceutical costs through inappropriate prescribing of antibiotic agents and increases total health care costs through the additional hospitalizations and other forms of additional medical care required in the treatment of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria; and

WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) have developed recommendations for health care professionals regarding best practices for the judicious use of antibiotics; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby endorse the CDC/AAP recommendations regarding the use of antibiotics; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly urge each health care professional and each managed care plan operating in Virginia to adopt the CDC/AAP recommendations in their practices and their formularies.