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SENATE BILL NO. 560

Offered January 24, 2000

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 32.1-324.2:1, relating to duties of the Director.

Patrons—Quayle, Barry, Couric, Edwards, Houck, Howell, Lambert and Saslaw; Delegates: Baskerville, Brink, Hamilton, McDonnell, Melvin and Orrock

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 32.1-324.2:1 as follows:**

**§ 32.1-324.2:1. Duties of the Director.**

In addition to other powers and duties enumerated in statute, the Director shall have the following duties:

1. To ensure that health care financing programs administered by the Department are efficiently and effectively administered.

2. To monitor and evaluate best practices in other states to ensure that Virginia's Medicaid program incorporates lessons learned in other states.

3. To advise the Governor and General Assembly on matters related to health care financing.

4. To consult with the General Assembly, stakeholder organizations, and other interested parties in developing policies and procedures related to the Department's health care financing.

5. To consult regularly with the chairmen and staffs of the House Appropriations Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and the Joint Commission on Health Care related to the Department's health care financing programs.

6. To work cooperatively with the Commissioner of Social Services, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and stakeholder organizations to ensure the efficient and effective enrollment of eligible children in the Virginia Children's Medical Security Insurance Plan as well as any other child health insurance plan that may be approved by the General Assembly.

7. To report annually no later than November 1 to the Governor and the General Assembly on the state's progress towards meeting the health care financing problems posed by growing numbers of uninsured and by an aging population.

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