

2002 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 560

Offered January 9, 2002

Prefiled January 8, 2002

A BILL to amend and reenact § 32.1-23 of the Code of Virginia, relating to pharmaceutical programs.

Patrons—Jones, S.C., Bell and Welch

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 32.1-23 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 32.1-23. Publication of information.

A. The Commissioner may provide for the publication and distribution of such information as may contribute to the preservation of the public health and the prevention of disease.

B. (For effective date - See Editor's note) The Commissioner shall establish, maintain and publicize a toll-free number to provide resource and referral information on pharmaceutical companies' free *and discount* drug programs for persons who demonstrate financial hardship *or otherwise meet program eligibility criteria*. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, available drugs, participating pharmaceutical companies, *and* application procedures for each of the pharmaceutical companies and dispensing methods. *Such information shall also include the locations of various Pharmacy Connect programs accessible by that person.* The Commissioner may contract with one or more public or private organizations to administer this resource and referral program.

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