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HOUSE BILL NO. 1412

Offered January 23, 2004

A BILL to require the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to develop a health insurance plan for certain unemployed residents.

Patron—Armstrong

Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. Secretary of Health and Human Resources to develop a health insurance plan.

Recognizing the fact that many residents of Virginia are unemployed and therefore many are likewise uninsured, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in cooperation with the Secretary of Finance and Secretary of Administration and the Bureau of Insurance within the State Corporation Commission, shall develop a plan providing for health insurance for unemployed residents of Virginia. One criterion for qualification in this program shall be that any such person insured shall have drawn unemployment compensation under Chapter 6 (§ 60.2-600 et seq.) of Title 60.2 (i) for at least six months during the last five-year period prior to the effective date of this act or (ii) for any six-month period after the effective date of this act. The plan shall be administered and rates established on a statewide basis to obtain the maximum cost savings to the person needing insurance. Financial participation by the insured shall be an element of any such insurance plan adopted by the Secretary. The plan shall be submitted to the House of Delegates and Senate Committees on Commerce and Labor on or before November 1, 2004.

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.