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HOUSE BILL NO. 359 Offered January 14, 2004 Prefiled January 12, 2004

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 an article numbered 15, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-73.8, relating to preventive pharmaceutical services for certain low-income patients.

Patron—BaCote

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 32.1 an article numbered 15, consisting of a section numbered 32.1-73.8 as follows:

Article 15.

Preventive Pharmaceutical Services For Certain Low-Income Patients.

§ 32.1-73.8. Preventive pharmaceutical services for certain low-income patients.

The Commissioner shall establish, by January 1, 2005, a mechanism whereby any public health clinic operated by a local or district health department that maintains pharmacy services shall continue to provide free or low-cost prescription drugs (on a sliding fee scale) to any low-income patients who do not have any prescription drug benefit and whose primary and specialty health care services have been transferred to a community health clinic delivering free or reduced price services to such patients at the recommendation of the public health clinic. However, any such patients shall be required to obtain prescription drugs from pharmaceutical companies' free or reduced price programs in so far as possible.