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HOUSE BILL NO. 1624

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions
on January 20, 2005)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Purkey)

A BILL to implement the federal Medicare Part D benefit and to convene a task force on prescription drug assistance for low-income Virginians.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. Implementation of the Medicare Part D benefit.

A. The Board of Medical Assistance Services shall promulgate necessary regulations to implement the provisions of the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit that becomes effective January 1, 2006.

B. Upon the implementation of the Medicare Part D program, the Department of Medical Assistance Services shall convene a task force of public and private stakeholders to assist the Department in evaluating the Medicare Part D benefit and to make recommendations for enhancing, coordinating, and integrating the existing pharmacy assistance programs for low-income Virginians and the Medicare Part D benefit. The Department shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2006.

2. That the Board of Medical Assistance Services shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this act to be effective within 280 days of its enactment.

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

HB1624H1