

2007 SESSION

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 774
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the House Committee on Rules
on January 31, 2007)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Kilgore)

Recognizing the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse as the primary state agency responsible for the planning and delivery of mental health services.

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization estimates that 10 to 20 percent of children suffer from one or more mental health or behavioral problems; and

WHEREAS, the foster care system was created to provide treatment and services for abused and neglected children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) was enacted to better coordinate the delivery of foster care services and services that support individual special education plans and to create a coordinated comprehensive service delivery system across state and local agencies that serve at-risk and troubled children, youth, and their families; and

WHEREAS, community services boards are recognized in the Code of Virginia as the single point of entry into the mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse system; and

WHEREAS, children are not a priority population for the funding of mental health services in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, very limited state funding is available to serve children with mental health needs who are not a part of the mandated population of CSA; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly recognize the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services as the primary state agency responsible for the planning and delivery of mental health services, that mental health services should be provided by and funded through the state's mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse systems, and that neither the Department of Social Services nor the Office of Comprehensive Services is the default system for the provision and funding of children's mental health services; and be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources develop budget recommendations for the 2008-2010 Biennial Budget that facilitate and fund service delivery for children through the state's mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse system.

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