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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 73

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 12, 2010

Continuing the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment. Report.

Patron—Hanger

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 77 (2008) established the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment; and

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 318 (2009) last continued the study for one year to continue to identify and characterize the nature of substance abuse in the Commonwealth; identify current state policies and programs targeting substance abuse prevention and treatment; examine the cost of such policies and programs to the Commonwealth; identify and examine policies and prevention programs from other leading states in the field of substance abuse and prevention; and benchmark the Commonwealth's substance abuse prevention and treatment programs and policies against those of the leading states; and

WHEREAS, a number of meetings with stakeholders were held throughout the state, the work groups established pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 318 to assist the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment each met three times, and the full Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment met four times during the 2009 interim to collect information and carry out the work of the joint subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the workgroups recommended and the full Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment concurred that the joint subcommittee be continued for one more year to continue to process and evaluate the information received by the work groups and strategies and models identified during the 2009 interim and to develop a more comprehensive list of recommendations for treating and preventing substance abuse and reducing the costs of substance abuse in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment be continued. The joint subcommittee shall have a total membership of 11 members that shall consist of three members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; one nonlegislative citizen member representing a private or nonprofit organization dedicated to substance abuse prevention or treatment programs to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; two nonlegislative citizen members representing private or nonprofit organizations dedicated to substance abuse prevention or treatment to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and the Commissioner of Social Services, the Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and the Director of the Department of Corrections or their designees shall serve ex officio with nonvoting privileges. Nonlegislative citizen members of the joint subcommittee shall be citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The current members appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules shall continue to serve until replaced. The current members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates shall be subject to reappointment. Vacancies shall be filled by the original appointing authority. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the chairman of the joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk, nonlegislative citizen members shall only be reimbursed for travel originating and ending within the Commonwealth of Virginia for the purpose of attending meetings. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required. The joint subcommittee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership, who shall be members of the General Assembly.

In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall continue to process information received and models and strategies identified by the joint subcommittee during the 2009 interim, in order to (i) identify and characterize the nature of substance abuse in the Commonwealth; (ii) identify current state policies and programs targeting substance abuse prevention and treatment; (iii) examine the cost of such policies and programs to the Commonwealth; (iv) identify and examine policies and prevention programs from other leading states in the field of substance abuse and prevention; and (v) benchmark

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59 the Commonwealth's substance abuse prevention and treatment programs and policies against those of
60 the leading states. Additionally, the joint subcommittee shall continue work groups established during
61 the 2009 interim to explore issues related to substance abuse treatment, substance abuse prevention, and
62 special issues related to the abuse of prescription medication.

63 Administrative staff support shall continue to be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the Senate.
64 Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the joint subcommittee shall continue
65 to be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide
66 assistance to the joint subcommittee for this study, upon request.

67 The joint subcommittee shall be limited to four meetings for the 2010 interim, and the direct costs of
68 this study shall not exceed \$6,200 without approval as set out in this resolution. Approval for
69 unbudgeted nonmember-related expenses shall require the written authorization of the chairman of the
70 joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is
71 agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required.

72 No recommendation of the joint subcommittee shall be adopted if a majority of the Senate members
73 or a majority of the House members appointed to the joint subcommittee (i) vote against the
74 recommendation and (ii) vote for the recommendation to fail notwithstanding the majority vote of the
75 joint subcommittee.

76 The joint subcommittee shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2010, and the chairman shall
77 submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and
78 recommendations no later than the first day of the 2011 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The
79 executive summary shall state whether the joint subcommittee intends to submit to the General
80 Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or
81 Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of
82 the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports
83 and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

84 Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint
85 Rules Committee. The Committee may approve or disapprove expenditures for this study, extend or
86 delay the period for the conduct of the study, or authorize additional meetings during the 2010 interim.
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