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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 196

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Rules on January 31, 2014)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Adams)

Directing the Commission on Youth to study the use of Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families funds for day school and residential educational placements for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Report.

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families (CSA) (§ 2.2-5200 et seq. of the Code of Virginia) establishes state funds that are used to provide services for at-risk youth and their families, including day school and residential services for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid funds are used for foster care placements in residential facilities and educational placements in residential facilities for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly seeks to ensure that youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth are not unnecessarily segregated from nondisabled youth in state-funded facilities, including educational and residential facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is important that youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth be provided the opportunity to receive integrated, supported services that enable them to interact with nondisabled youth to the fullest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of the use of CSA and Medicaid funds for the aforementioned purposes may help to ensure that the Commonwealth's funds are being used efficiently to provide services to youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the most integrated setting possible; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Commission on Youth be directed to study the use of Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families funds for day school and residential educational placements for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Further, the Commission on Youth shall include in its study the use of Medicaid funds for foster care placements in residential facilities and educational placements in residential facilities for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

In conducting its study, the Commission on Youth shall (i) examine the use of CSA and Medicaid funds for facilities for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including educational and residential facilities; (ii) gather local and statewide data on the extent to which youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities are placed in segregated facilities; (iii) determine the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of more integrated alternatives to provide services to youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Commonwealth; and (iv) consider any other matters as it deems appropriate to meet the objectives of this study.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission on Youth for this study, upon request.

The Commission on Youth shall complete its meetings for the first year by November 30, 2014, and for the second year by November 30, 2015, and the chairman shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the next Regular Session of the General Assembly for each year. Each executive summary shall state whether the Commission on Youth intends to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summaries and reports shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.