

## 2015 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 596

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 12, 2015

*Directing the Joint Commission on Health Care to study resources for health care for underserved populations in the Commonwealth. Report.*

Patron—Marshall, R.G.

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, lack of health insurance coverage limits access to health care for some residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a significant and growing shortage of health care and dental care providers further limits access to necessary medical services; and

WHEREAS, improving access to health care providers may have positive effects on the overall health and well-being of residents of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Commission on Health Care be directed to study resources for health care for underserved populations in the Commonwealth.

In conducting its study, the Joint Commission on Health Care shall (i) identify unserved or underserved regions and populations in the Commonwealth, (ii) evaluate existing health care services for unserved and underserved individuals, (iii) identify alternative models for delivering health care to unserved and underserved individuals, and (iv) make recommendations for improving access to health care in the Commonwealth through expansion of existing health care services and development of alternative models of health care delivery. As part of its study, the Joint Commission on Health Care shall study the feasibility of certifying volunteer health care providers to provide health care to unserved and underserved populations and exempting certified volunteer health care providers from civil liability for injuries resulting from the delivery of health care by such providers in accordance with the provisions of House Bill 39 (2014).

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

The Joint Commission on Health Care shall complete its meetings for the first year by November 30, 2015, and for the second year by November 30, 2016, 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 Joint Commission on Health Care 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.

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