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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 74

Offered January 18, 2018

Encouraging the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Education, and their associated state agencies to analyze the feasibility of developing and implementing a consolidated application for state and federal services administered by the Commonwealth and to explore opportunities to share data among state agencies regarding applicants for and recipients of such services.

Patron—Ebbin

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the development of a consolidated application in which residents of the Commonwealth may simultaneously apply for multiple state and federal services administered by the Commonwealth would simplify the application process and improve the efficiency of the Commonwealth's procedures for processing such applications; and

WHEREAS, requiring applicants to submit separate applications for each public assistance and childhood education program imposes redundant burdens on both applicants and agencies of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a central, consolidated application for multiple state and federal services would help to streamline the processing of applications by state agencies, allow multiple state agencies to process applications concurrently, and avoid a waste of financial and human resources necessary to assist applicants with the preparation of separate applications; and

WHEREAS, a consolidated application would help to ensure that applicants are better informed of the various public assistance and childhood education services for which such applicants and their children may be eligible and that applicants are given an opportunity to apply for such services through a process that is not overly burdensome; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with a central application, it would further improve the efficiency of the Commonwealth's analysis and processing of applications to allow the sharing of data, records, and information among the appropriate state agencies about applicants for and recipients of state and federal services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Education, and their associated state agencies be encouraged to analyze the feasibility of developing and implementing a consolidated application for state and federal services administered by the Commonwealth and to explore opportunities to share data among state agencies regarding applicants for and recipients of such services. The consolidated application may encompass services provided under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, Medicaid, Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan, Virginia Preschool Initiative, Head Start program, and other appropriate social services and childhood education programs; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Secretary of Education requesting that the Secretaries further disseminate copies of this resolution to their associated state agencies so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

INTRODUCED

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