

1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 537

Offered January 23, 1995

Requesting the Department of Medical Assistance Services to request the Health Care Financing Authority to amend Virginia's Technology Assisted Waiver for children to allow admission of persons over the age of 21 and to add services in a group home setting, environmental modifications, assistive technology, and personal assistance services.

Patrons—Mayer, Diamonstein and Heilig; Senators: Miller, Y.B. and Woods

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the current Virginia Technology Assisted Waiver for children has an age limit of 21 years; and

WHEREAS, the current waiver provides only for nursing services in the home and, in some cases, appropriate, cost-effective care can be provided in a group home setting; and

WHEREAS, in addition to nursing services, other means of assistance, such as the installation of safety and enabling devices in the home, and personal assistance services, may be required in order to enable an individual to leave institutionalized care; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Medical Assistance Services has identified at least 49 persons over the age of 21 who are ventilator-dependent and are currently institutionalized in specialized nursing facilities; and

WHEREAS, there are other individuals who may benefit from this waiver who cannot at present be identified; and

WHEREAS, some of these individuals and their families would prefer care outside the institution; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change to the waiver should not result in additional expenditures for the state since these services would be provided only to persons who would otherwise require institutionalization in a specialized nursing facility; and

WHEREAS, the cost of community services will be no more than the cost of their care in an institution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Medical Assistance Services request the Health Care Financing Authority (HCFA) to amend Virginia's Technology Assisted Waiver for children to allow inclusion of persons over the age of 21 years and to add services in a group home setting, environmental modifications, assistive technology, and personal assistance services.

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