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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 632

Offered January 23, 1995

Requesting the Department of Medical Assistance Services to seek a waiver extending Medicaid coverage to persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

Patrons—Van Landingham, Christian, Cooper, Darner and Van Yahres; Senators: Barry, Miller, Y.B. and Potts

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, states are required to comply with federal laws that protect the rights and interests of individuals with disabilities and require early identification of such persons, and to provide for the delivery of individualized and specialized education and training and related support services; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Continuation of Services to Young Adults Exiting Publicly Funded Programs, pursuant to HJR 103 (1994), has determined that many persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness require specialized services long after they have become ineligible for services; and

WHEREAS, the Department has successfully requested waivers to extend Medicaid services to other medically needy persons; and

WHEREAS, under current Medicaid regulations, persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness may not be eligible for Medicaid benefits and services; and

WHEREAS, if such persons were eligible for Medicaid services, their immediate and long-term needs could be met; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Medical Assistance Services is requested to seek a waiver to extend Medicaid coverage to persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

All agencies of the Commonwealth are requested to provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

The Department is requested to complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Services for the processing of legislative documents.