

# 1995 SESSION

ENGROSSED

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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 285

Senate Amendments in [ ] — February 7, 1995

*Continuing the Parity Task Force appointed by the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits.*

Patrons—Holland, C.A., Houck and Schewel; Delegates: Davies and Rhodes

Referred to the Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor considered legislation introduced in the 1994 Session that was intended to provide parity of mental health insurance benefits with physical health benefits and referred it to the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits; and

WHEREAS, that Commission has sought the cooperation of mental health consumers and providers, the business community and the insurance industry to review the adequacy of such benefits and the feasibility of achieving the intent of such legislation; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid parties have selected representatives to meet with two members of the General Assembly appointed by the chairman of the Mandated Benefits Commission and two members of the Executive branch appointed by the Secretaries of Administration and Health and Human Resources to form a task force to make recommendations to the Commission on such issues; and

WHEREAS, the interested parties have pledged approximately \$6,500 to support the work of the task force and such task force began its work with meetings in December, 1994; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the task force appointed by the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits shall be continued to try to achieve consensus on what constitutes adequate mental health and substance abuse health insurance benefits.

[ The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$3,000. ]

The current members of the task force shall continue to serve [ subject to the confirmation by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections regarding the service of the Senate member and the confirmation by the Speaker of the House of Delegates regarding the service of the House member ] . Staff for the study shall be provided by the Center for Environmental Negotiation at the University of Virginia and the Virginia Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution section.

The task force shall complete its work and submit its findings to the Special Advisory Commission on Mandated Health Insurance Benefits. The Special Advisory Commission shall report the task force findings to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly in accordance with the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

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