

1995 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 344

Requesting the Department for the Aging to study the availability of therapeutic recreation in adult facilities and methods to encourage residents to participate in such activities.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 1995

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 1995

WHEREAS, the residents in Virginia's long-term care facilities need to participate in a variety of stimulating activities to maintain both their mental and physical well-being; and

WHEREAS, recreational activities can include crafts and solitary games as well as group activities, field trips, educational classes, informative presentations, and mental and physical exercises; and

WHEREAS, recreational activities provide structure to residents' days, provide opportunities for entertainment and social interaction, help maintain muscle tone and physical conditioning, and contribute to their overall well-being; and

WHEREAS, therapeutic recreational activities can be tailored to help individual residents improve their mobility, sharpen their memory, increase their social interactions, lift depression, and generally improve their quality of life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Department for the Aging study the availability of therapeutic recreation in adult facilities and methods used to encourage residents to participate in therapeutic recreational activities which can improve their health and well-being, provide increased social interaction, and generally improve their quality of life.

The Department for the Aging shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

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

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