

# 1997 SESSION

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 657

Offered January 20, 1997

*Directing the Joint Commission on Health Care to study improving the consistent application of laws and regulations among managed health care plans.*

Patrons—Plum, Abbitt, Hull, Ingram, Katzen and Keating; Senators: Colgan, Lambert, Marye, Newman and Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

WHEREAS, the variety of types of competing managed health care plans is increasing; and  
WHEREAS, the emergence of different and varied types of managed health care plans may result in different levels of regulation among plans; and

WHEREAS, such inconsistent regulation and enforcement is evident in operational, administrative and financial regulations; and

WHEREAS, it may be desirable to subject all competing plans to the same level of regulatory oversight; and

WHEREAS, a consistent system of regulatory oversight would appear beneficial to a free and competitive market and to enhance the availability of high-quality, cost-effective health care in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Commission on Health Care be directed to study improving the consistent application of laws and regulations among managed health care plans. The study shall include examination of the (i) complaint, appeal, and examination process, (ii) reserve, rate review and disclosure requirements, and (iii) income and premium taxes and assessments. Additionally, the Joint Commission on Health Care shall determine the extent to which inconsistent application of such laws and regulations impedes competition among managed care and shall also study the extent to which the current legal and regulatory scheme enhances or impedes the availability of quality, affordable health care to all Virginians. Technical assistance shall be provided to the Joint Commission on Health Care by the Bureau of Insurance, the Department of Health Professions, and the Commissioner of Health.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Joint Commission on Health Care for this study, upon request.

The Joint Commission on Health Care shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 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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