

1998 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 140

Continuing the Special Task Force Studying the Practice of Therapeutic Interchange of Chemically Dissimilar Drugs in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 1998

Agreed to by the Senate, March 10, 1998

WHEREAS, the Special Task Force Studying the Practice of Therapeutic Interchange of Chemically Dissimilar Drugs in the Commonwealth of Virginia was established pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 630 (1997); and

WHEREAS, the Special Task Force met on four occasions in 1997 and received information and considered issues relating to the practice of therapeutic interchange; and

WHEREAS, the Special Task Force succeeded in adopting a definition of the term "therapeutic interchange of chemically dissimilar drugs" and further identified two important questions relating to the practice of therapeutic interchange: "Is the practice of therapeutic interchange harmful to Virginia residents?" "How many Virginians are affected by this practice?"; and

WHEREAS, the Special Task Force came to the conclusion that additional information is needed before any specific recommendations regarding the practice of therapeutic interchange can be made; and

WHEREAS, it was the collective opinion of the Special Task Force members that final recommendations about the practice of therapeutic interchange of chemically dissimilar drugs in the Commonwealth be deferred; and

WHEREAS, the Special Task Force recommended that it be continued in order that it may have the opportunity to review the findings of a study to be performed by the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 574 (1997); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Special Task Force Studying the Practice of Therapeutic Interchange of Chemically Dissimilar Drugs in the Commonwealth of Virginia be continued. The membership of the Special Task Force shall remain the same with vacancies being filled in the manner indicated in the original resolution.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$1,500. As provided in the original resolution, nonlegislative members shall serve in a voluntary capacity and shall not be entitled to compensation or reimbursement for their expenses for participation in this study.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Pharmacy. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Special Task Force, upon request.

The Special Task Force shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1999 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

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