

2020 SESSION

INTRODUCED

20102591D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

Offered January 8, 2020

Prefiled January 6, 2020

Requesting the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to study the establishment of a Prescription Drug Affordability Board. Report.

Patrons—Guzman, Simonds, Adams, D.M., Jenkins, Levine, Rasoul, Samirah and Subramanyam;
Senators: Bell and Morrissey

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, prescription drugs are as important to the health and safety of residents of the Commonwealth as traditional public services or utilities such as transportation, gas, electric, telecommunications, and water; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has traditionally regulated the consumer price of certain utilities because of the monopoly structure of the market; and

WHEREAS, many prescription drugs have become increasingly unaffordable for residents of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, state and federal agencies have a long history of health care rate setting, including for brand pharmaceuticals and biologics and generic drugs, to control health care costs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources be requested to study the establishment of a Prescription Drug Affordability Board.

In conducting its study, the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall develop and recommend a plan for the establishment of a Prescription Drug Affordability Board in the Commonwealth with the authority to review and regulate the cost of prescription drugs.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Secretary of Health and Human Resources for this study, upon request.

The Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2020, and shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

HJ52