HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 538

Endorsing the work of the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities to demonstrate comprehensive systems of individual and family support within two target communities in the Commonwealth.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 1995 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 1995

WHEREAS, the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities is the agency in Virginia that administers the federal Developmental Disabilities allotment received from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the Developmental Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted in 1994 the three-year Developmental Disabilities State Plan which prioritizes the use of the federal funds to facilitate changes in the disability service system in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, one of the priorities adopted is the development and implementation of a comprehensive system of individual and family support services that will enable individuals to live independently in community settings of their choice and assist families in maintaining children with developmental disabilities in the natural family environment; and

WHEREAS, the Board has approved a total allocation of \$830,000 for two three-year projects to accomplish the goals of its individual and family support priorities, contingent upon the receipt of the federal dollars for each of the three years; and

WHEREAS, these projects will provide valuable information about ways to utilize available resources more efficiently and will suggest strategies to cultivate these services throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly endorses the concepts advanced by the Virginia Board for Persons with Disabilities for the demonstration of effective methods of providing individual and family support services at the community level.