HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 632

Requesting the Department of Medical Assistance Services to study the possibility of seeking a waiver extending Medicaid coverage to persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 1995 Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 1995

WHEREAS, states are required to comply with federal laws that protect the rights and interests of individuals with disabilities and require early identification of such persons, and to provide for the delivery of individualized and specialized education and training and related support services; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Continuation of Services to Young Adults Exiting Publicly Funded Programs, pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 103 (1994), has determined that many persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness require specialized services long after they have become ineligible for services; and

WHEREAS, the Department has successfully requested waivers to extend Medicaid services to other medically needy persons; and

WHEREAS, under current Medicaid regulations, persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness may not be eligible for Medicaid benefits and services; and

WHEREAS, if such persons were eligible for Medicaid services, their immediate and long-term needs could be met; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Medical Assistance Services be requested to study the possibility of seeking a waiver to extend Medicaid coverage to persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

All agencies of the Commonwealth are requested to provide assistance to the Department, upon request.

The Department is requested to 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 Services for the processing of legislative documents.