

1998 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 182

Offered January 26, 1998

Requesting the Disability Commission to study methods for and the feasibility of expanding the Medicaid Waiver System and the Mental Retardation Waiver System to allow minors with severe disabilities to receive consumer-directed care.

Patrons—Cantor; Senator: Woods

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Commonwealth and its residents to encourage family stability and to avoid institutionalization of disabled children; and

WHEREAS, the severe disability of a child presents financial, emotional, and social pressures on parents as they seek to provide needed care and defray medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, frequently, working families who wish to care for their child at home find that their income is too small to pay medical expenses, but too great to qualify for assistance; and

WHEREAS, parents may find that their child is eligible for assistance only if he or she is institutionalized; and

WHEREAS, such institutionalization deprives the child of parental care and attention while incurring greater costs than home care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Disability Commission be requested to study methods for and the feasibility of expanding the Medicaid Waiver System and the Mental Retardation Waiver System to allow minors with severe disabilities to receive consumer-directed care.

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

The Disability Commission 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.

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