

**REPORT OF THE
DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING**

**Proceedings of the
1991 Governor's Conference on Aging**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 57

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
1992**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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March 18, 1992

Delegate George W. Grayson
Post Office Box 1969
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187

Senator R. Edward Houck
Post Office Box 7
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553

Dear Delegate Grayson and Senator Houck:

Enclosed are the proceedings and recommendations of the 1991 Governor's Conference on Aging, which was authorized by the 1990 General Assembly under House Joint Resolution 203 and Senate Joint Resolution 40.

The purpose of the conference was to develop "Blueprints for an Older Dominion," recommendations which would improve the quality of life for older persons in the 1990's, a time when the Commonwealth's older population will increase by more than 40%. The more than 400 persons who participated in the conference adopted an exemplary slate of recommendations which were practical, realistic and beneficial to nearly 1,000,000 older Virginians, as well as their families.

Chapter 3 of these proceedings shows how each recommendation is being implemented. Numerous legislative actions in the 1992 General Assembly demonstrate that both the legislature and the Governor recognize the value of the recommendations and are committed to their implementation.

On behalf of almost 1,000,000 older Virginians, thank you for making this first biennial Governor's Conference on Aging possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thelma E. Bland".

Thelma E. Bland
Commissioner

BLUEPRINTS FOR AN OLDER DOMINION

Proceedings and Recommendations of the

1991 Governor's Conference on Aging

Richmond, Virginia

May 29-31, 1992

PREFACE

House Joint Resolution 203 (Delegate Grayson) and Senate Joint Resolution 43 (Senator Houck), passed by the 1990 General Assembly, requested the Governor to institute a biennial Conference on Aging. The purpose of the first Conference was to:

- 1) prepare a "Blueprint" or long-range plan for meeting the variety of needs of the elderly in the 1990's.
- 2) provide an opportunity for the network of organizations, agencies and industries which serve the elderly to discuss trends, issues and policies which will affect them in the 1990's.
- 3) provide the Commonwealth with an opportunity to shift its focus from providing services to individuals to a greater emphasis on developing support systems within communities.
- 4) prepare for the White House Conference on Aging scheduled for 1993.

The planning and implementation of the Conference was assigned to the Department for the Aging, which established three statewide Committees: an Executive Committee to guide overall planning, a Finance Committee to solicit corporate support for the conference, and a Development Committee to develop the issues to be considered by eight work groups.

The Department wishes to thank the following Virginians who volunteered their time and expertise to make the 1991 Governor's Conference on Aging a successful event:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chairman Robert Blancato, Arlington Commission on Aging
Robert Haas, AARP, Alexandria
Johnnye Thompson, Governor's Advisory Bd. on Aging, Lawrenceville
Richard Lindsay, Governor's Advisory Bd. on Aging, Charlottesville
Susan Williams, League of Older Americans, Roanoke
Terri Lynch, Arlington Agency on Aging, Arlington
Mary Payne, Capital Area Agency on Aging, Richmond
William Massey, Peninsula Agency on Aging, Newport News

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Robert Blancato, Co-Chair, Arlington Commission on Aging
Eva Teig, Co-Chair, Virginia Power, Richmond
Wilda Ferguson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of VA, Richmond
Joseph Ward, Signet Banking Corporation, Richmond
Katherine Webb, Virginia Hospital Association, Richmond

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Edward Ansello, Director, Virginia Center on Aging, Richmond
Paul Behrens, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Richmond
Virginia Board, Virginia Power, Richmond
Barbara Bodeman, VA Health Care Association, Richmond

Margo Clark, Urban League of Greater Richmond
Betty Cochran, Div. of Quality Care Assurance, DMAS, Richmond
MaryEllen Cox, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Mechanicsville
Mrs. Paul Comisarow, AARP, Warrenton
Gay Currie, Exec. Dir., Lake Country Area Agency on Aging, South Hill
Peggy Farmer, AARP, Richmond
John F. Hughes, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Alexandria
Kimlah Hyatt, Richmond
Ruth Kernodle, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Williamsburg
Rose King, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Petersburg
Helen Leonard, Adult Services Program Manager, DSS, Richmond
Sandy Levin, Executive Director, VANHA, Richmond
Richard Lindsay, UVA Medical Center, Charlottesville
William Lukhard, AARP, Manakin
Terri Lynch, Exec. Director, Arlington Area Agency on Aging, Arlington
William Massey, Director, Peninsula Agency on Aging, Newport News
Leroy McAllister, Sr., Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Aylett
Jo McNeil, Director of Public Health Nursing, DOH, Richmond
Norma Mengle, Virginia Association for Home Care, Richmond
Gordon M. Morton, State Director, AARP, Virginia Beach
Lory Osorio, Director, Stuart Circle Center, Richmond
Michael Osorio, Executive Director, VAHA, Richmond
Mary C. Payne, Exec. Dir., Capital Area Agency on Aging, Richmond
James Perry, Wakefield
Judi Reid, Green Inc. of Virginia, Richmond
Sally Richardson, Signet Banking Corporation, Richmond
Yvette Ridley, AARP, Midlothian
Sherman Saunders, Exec. Dir., Pittsylvania Co. Community Action Agency, Chatham
Robert L. Schneider, VCU School of Social Work, Richmond
Ted Shaw, Chairman, VA Silver-Haired Legislature, Lanexa
Rae Sussman, Alexandria
Johnnye Thompson, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Lawrenceville
Gloria Twitty, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Newport News
William Vesey, Catholic Diocese of Richmond
Katherine M. Webb, Vice President, VA Hospital Assoc., Richmond
Marilyn H. West, Richmond
Susan Williams, Exec. Director, League of Older Americans, Roanoke
Al Wilson III, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg

Department staff for overall conference planning were James Cotter, Bob Knox, and William Peterson.

THE 1991 GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON AGING

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first biennial Governor's Conference on Aging was held on May 29-31, 1991 at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond. The Conference was the result of HJR 203 (Delegate Grayson) and SJR 43 (Senator Houck), passed by the 1990 General Assembly, requesting the Governor to institute a biennial Conference on Aging. The purpose of the first Conference was to:

- 1) prepare a "Blueprint" or long-range plan for meeting the variety of needs of the elderly in the 1990's.
- 2) provide an opportunity for the network of organizations, agencies and industries which serve the elderly to discuss trends, issues and policies which will affect them in the 1990's.
- 3) provide the Commonwealth with an opportunity to shift its focus from providing services to individuals to a greater emphasis on developing support systems within communities.
- 4) prepare for the White House Conference on Aging scheduled for late 1992.

The planning and implementation of the Conference was assigned to the Department for the Aging, which established an Executive Committee to guide overall planning, a Finance Committee to solicit corporate support for the conference, and a Development Committee to develop the issues to be considered by eight work groups.

No General Funds were appropriated for this conference. Expenses of about \$40,000 were paid from conference registrations and corporate contributions.

The Executive Committee chose eight policy areas of particular importance to older Virginians. The policy areas were:

housing	transportation	economic security	health care
long-term care	caregiving	legal issues	health and lifestyle

Conference participants chose a single policy area and attended sessions that viewed it from three perspectives: the present status, the goals for the future and the recommendations or "blueprint" to achieve the goals. Each work group included consumers, state and local government representatives, private sector providers and aging advocates. Recommendations were required to focus on what is realistic and achievable for the Commonwealth over several years. Some recommendations have been submitted to the 1992 General Assembly; some have been implemented by administrative action; others are under study for implementation in 1992.

Chapter 1: OVERVIEW

The first biennial Governor's Conference on Aging was held on May 29-31, 1991 at the Jefferson Hotel in Richmond. The Conference was the result of HJR 203 (Delegate Grayson) and SJR 43 (Senator Houck), passed by the 1990 General Assembly, requesting the Governor to institute a biennial Conference on Aging (Appendix A and B). The purpose of the first Conference was to:

- 1) prepare a "Blueprint" or long-range plan for meeting the variety of needs of the elderly in the 1990's.
- 2) provide an opportunity for the network of organizations, agencies and industries which serve the elderly to discuss trends, issues and policies which will affect them in the 1990's.
- 3) provide the Commonwealth with an opportunity to shift its focus from providing services to individuals to a greater emphasis on developing support systems within communities.
- 4) prepare for the White House Conference on Aging scheduled for 1993.

The planning and implementation of the Conference was assigned to the Department for the Aging, which established an Executive Committee to guide overall planning, a Finance Committee to solicit corporate support for the conference, and a Development Committee to develop the issues to be considered by eight work groups.

The theme of the conference was **"Blueprints for an Older Dominion."** It was a three-day policy development conference for about 450 people, drafting policy recommendations to the Governor for the decade of the 1990's.

The registration fee was \$50 per participant. Scholarships were available through contributions by members of the Senior Lawyers Section of the Virginia State Bar.

The Conference was developed by an Executive Committee which met at least monthly from September, 1990 to May, 1991. The members were:

Chairman Robert Blancato, Arlington Commission on Aging; Arlington
Robert Haas, AARP; Alexandria
Johnnye Thompson, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging; Lawrenceville
Richard Lindsay, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, Charlottesville
Susan Williams, Executive Director, League of Older Americans; Roanoke
Terri Lynch, Executive Director, Arlington Agency on Aging; Arlington
Mary Payne, Executive Director, Capital Area Agency on Aging; Richmond
William Massey, Peninsula Agency on Aging; Newport News

Primary staff from the Department were Jim Cotter, Bob Knox, and Bill Peterson.

No General Funds were appropriated for this conference. Expenses of about \$40,000 were paid from conference registrations and corporate contributions. Initial contributions were pledged by Signet Bank, Virginia Power, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Virginia, AARP, the National Italian American Foundation and C&P Telephone. A Fundraising Committee was formed to solicit other corporate contributions and raised nearly \$25,000. A list of contributors is found in Appendix D.

Four speakers addressed plenary sessions of the Conference:

Wednesday Keynote Speaker: Governor L. Douglas Wilder

Thursday Morning: Dr. Daniel Callahan; Director of the Hastings Center, New York; author of Setting Limits: Medical Goals in an Aging Society; speaking on the whether aging entitlement programs should be based on need rather than age.

Thursday Evening: Doug Manning; author of Love's Toughest Decision; speaking on the problems families face in caring for their older members.

Friday Closing: Lt. Governor Donald S. Beyer, Jr.

The Executive Committee chose eight policy areas of particular importance to older Virginians. The policy areas were:

housing	transportation	economic security
health care	long-term care	caregiving
legal issues	health and lifestyle	

Each policy area was developed further by a group of forty volunteers. Briefing packets for each area were prepared by staff at the Department for the Aging. Each work group was staffed by a moderator, facilitator and a resource person from the Department (Appendix C).

Conference participants chose a single policy area and attended sessions that viewed it from three perspectives: the present status, the goals for the future and the recommendations or "blueprint" to achieve the goals. Each work group included consumers, state and local government representatives, private sector providers and aging advocates. Recommendations were required to focus on what is realistic and achievable for the Commonwealth over several years.

Carolyn White Hodgins, former Director of the Department for the Rights of Virginians with Disabilities, supervised the development of the work groups, their staffs, and the final adoption of the conference recommendations.

Recommendations from each work group are contained in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 addresses implementation of the recommendations.

CHAPTER 2: CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS

A. HOUSING WORK GROUP

Overview There was a strong commitment by the group in support of independent living for all older citizens for as long as possible. There is a disparity across Virginia in the availability of safe, affordable, and accessible housing. The group stresses that housing is not an isolated issue that can be addressed apart from the other seven issue areas.

Recommendations

- 1) Recognizing the severe shortage of available, affordable senior housing options for older Virginians, the Governor should convene a blue ribbon panel to develop specific housing recommendations. The panel should utilize housing expertise in both the public and private sectors as well as state and local community levels. The panel should develop innovative ways of generating housing that will meet the special needs of older Virginians. The panel should report its recommendations to the Governor by November of 1991 and these recommendations should be incorporated into the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy Plan developed by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.
- 2) Outreach to the elderly is fragmented. Local agencies, health care professionals, and service providers are often not aware of the various options and resources available to generate housing for older citizens. The Virginia General Assembly should appropriate funds to support three pilot Housing Developer Projects at the community level (urban, rural and mixed). The role of the Housing Developer Projects will be to educate localities about available housing resources and provide technical assistance in the development of housing options for the elderly. The three pilot projects should be designed so that they may be replicated throughout the Commonwealth. The General Assembly should also appropriate funding to support local housing resource coordinators for Virginia's 25 local Area Agencies who will work in conjunction with the Housing Developer Project in addressing local housing needs.
- 3) We recommend that the Governor ask the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to develop model zoning guidelines to address the issues of ECHO housing, accessory apartments, single room occupancy (SROs), shared housing, and commercial property conversion.

B. CAREGIVING WORK GROUP

Overview Substantial research in the last two decades attests to the significant role performed by informal caregivers in sustaining the elderly in the community. As the number of older persons age 75 and older continues to grow, the presence of these informal supports becomes particularly important. In response to the growing evidence of the vital role played by this informal support network, the Caregiving Work Group explored means of strengthening and sustaining this network.

Recommendations

- 1) The Governor, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, and the General Assembly should provide funding for comprehensive in-home care and adult day services statewide. Such funding should include education and respite for caregivers, and require recipients of the services to pay for some or all of the cost based upon their ability to pay.
- 2) Families and other informal caregivers who provide services for persons requiring long-term care should be eligible for some form of tax or financial benefit. The Governor should ask the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in cooperation with the Tax Commissioner, to prepare a proposal to benefit caregivers for costs they incur in providing care to maintain someone at home.
- 3) In order to help defray costs associated with providing services to those who need care to remain at home, state regulations should be altered to encourage innovative use of human resources. Possible resources could include students, service organizations, the National Guard, adults with developmental disabilities, non-profit groups, and others.

C. PERSONAL HEALTH AND LIFESTYLES WORK GROUP

Overview The group focused on providing recommendations that would reflect wellness initiatives and disease prevention programs. The group discussed the need for increased consumer education, the need for personal responsibility for a healthy old age, changes needed in our current health care system, and the need for increased integration and coordination of our health care and human services system. The group's vision for the future included universal access to affordable and accessible health care coupled with education for persons of all ages in disease prevention and health promotion.

Recommendations

- 1) The Governor should ask appropriate Cabinet Secretaries to evaluate existing resources and develop and implement a comprehensive wellness education plan including curricula and/or licensing criteria for health care professionals in order to promote healthy lifestyles for all Virginians.

- 2) The Governor should ask the Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Problems to study the feasibility of establishing a computerized statewide drug monitoring system that will be supplemented by the voluntary reporting of utilization of nonprescription drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products.
- 3) The General Assembly should adopt legislation to require insurance companies to reimburse or make provision for credit or discount for participation in approved preventive programs such as health screenings and exercise, weight management, smoking cessation, and drug and alcohol education programs.

D. LEGAL ISSUES WORK GROUP

Overview The working agenda for this work group covered surrogate decision-making, consumer issues, and crime against the elderly. Work group participants heard presentations on surrogate decision-making, consumer issues, guardianship, patient self-determination, and access issues surrounding legal services.

Participants identified an extensive list of current needs falling under the general categories of guardianship, consumer protection, access to legal services and the judicial system, adult protective services, and advance directives. The need for increased education for providers, consumers, and caregivers was pervasive. So was the need for Virginia's judicial system to enforce existing statutes.

Participants proceeded to develop goals and strategies aimed at 1) protecting older citizens from abuse, neglect, and exploitation; 2) improving access to legal services and the judicial system; and 3) enhancing autonomy and self determination of older Virginians. The work group's three recommendations flow from these goals and strategies.

Recommendations

- 1) The Governor should propose legislation to be entitled "The Older Virginians Protection Act." This act would seek to protect all vulnerable persons from abuse, neglect, or exploitation in their personal, financial, medical, occupational, and legal affairs. Any individual or entity violating any provision of this Act would be liable for civil and/or criminal penalties and actions for damages brought by, or on behalf of, any injured persons.
- 2) The Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia should convene a statewide conference to make recommendations on the legal and judicial access needs of older Virginians. The agenda should include, but not be limited to, access to legal and judicial services, community education, identification and assessment of the legal needs of older citizens, education of members of the bar and the judiciary, and examination of age stereotypes within the legal and judicial systems. The conference should be targeted to members of the bar, the judiciary, legislators, policy makers, service providers, aging

advocates, and consumers.

- 3) The General Assembly should enact 1) revisions to the guardianship provisions of the Code in accordance with maximum due process, the functional needs of the individual, and the principle of the "least restrictive alternative"; and 2) statutes requiring the recognition and acceptance of duly executed durable general powers of attorney, medical powers of attorney, and living wills to maximize the autonomy and self-determination of older citizens.

E. ECONOMIC SECURITY WORK GROUP

Overview The Economic Security Work Group convened with 31 members and reviewed issues surrounding the assigned topic. The opening session included a panel composed of The Honorable Henry Morgan, member of the Virginia House of Delegates, Jay Spear, Esq., an attorney with Legal Aid of Central Virginia, and Bob Haas with the American Association of Retired Persons. The panel addressed subjects relating to pre-retirement planning, public benefits programs, and other services for the poor and near poor. They identified costs as well as gaps in medical and financial services. A second session heard Dr. Linda Wolfe from the American Public Welfare Association present the conservative posture of the federal legislative body, stating that money for new and expanded programs could only come from the reallocation of existing funds.

The economic security goals for Virginia were identified and included: 1) retirement and pension protection, 2) assuring early and effective financial planning and management, and 3) strengthening and improving services and benefits for low-income citizens. Other issues included the Commonwealth's role in enhancing quality of life and the role of partnerships between the public and private sectors.

A particular concern expressed throughout the session was the need to assure access for all Virginians to adequate health care. Work group members chose not to directly address this issue since the Health Care Reform Work Group would be developing specific recommendations regarding this issue. However, without exception, members urged the Governor and General Assembly to address this critical issue.

Recommendations

- 1) The legislature should adopt laws protecting unallocated pension funds as well as future funds to be received. Emphasis in the laws should be placed upon maintaining the integrity of these funds, assuring that commitments to employees are honored, and providing oversight and protection for employees' contributions.
- 2) The Governor's Office along with the Secretary of Economic Development should: 1) develop a marketing program to encourage employers to provide educational opportunities

on such issues as financial management, legal issues, pre-retirement planning and career development and offer incentives for employers to take advantage of these opportunities, and 2) provide formal recognition to employers and employees who succeed in fulfilling these goals.

- 3) The Governor, through the Secretary of Health and Human Resources, should mandate agencies to work together for the purposes of standardizing eligibility criteria and streamlining the application process for benefit and service programs. The agencies will also work together to develop effective outreach for informing the public of these benefits and services.

F. TRANSPORTATION WORK GROUP

Overview Using a process that provided for each individual's participation, the group identified critical issues, primary goals, and strategies. The group's recommendations are based on the consensus that:

1. State-level coordination of human services transportation is needed to maximize efficient and economical use of available resources;
2. Additional funding is needed to meet current unmet human service transportation needs;
3. Adequate long-term, stable funding is required to meet the transportation needs of a growing elderly population and other transportation disadvantaged persons; and
4. Ultimate full funding of expanded public transportation services throughout Virginia is needed to eventually meet the mobility needs of all citizens, including the transportation disadvantaged.

Recommendations

1. The General Assembly should enact legislation to create and staff a Human Services Transportation Council, with representatives of state and local human services agencies, service providers, human services transportation users and other citizens appointed by the Governor, under the Secretary of Transportation, responsible for developing: a) a statewide human services transportation policy; b) a comprehensive statewide plan, based on regional/local needs; c) criteria for and administering a new human service transportation incentive fund (see Recommendation 2); and d) a method to identify barriers to coordinated delivery of human service transportation and initiate corrective actions.

The Council should consider proposing initiatives to: a) develop incentives for public-private partnerships; b) improve coordination among public, private and human services transportation; c) achieve everyday availability of appropriate and affordable transportation statewide; d) eliminate constraints (e.g. increased auto liability insurance premiums) upon, and create incentives for, transportation volunteers; and e) respond to the other critical transportation issues identified by the 1991 Governor's Conference on

Aging.

2. The Governor should propose in his 1992-94 budget, and the General Assembly should appropriate: a) \$4.4 million (based on documented unmet needs reported by Area Agencies on Aging in April, 1991) to fully fund the operational costs of Area Agency vehicles currently providing transportation; and b) \$500,000 to establish an incentive fund for the Human Services Transportation Council to fund innovative cooperative activities. The General Assembly also should direct the Human Services Transportation Council to propose initiatives to achieve a reliable and stable funding base for human service transportation.
3. The General Assembly should increase, on an incremental basis, state appropriations for public transportation to a level adequate to fully fund public transportation improvements and service expansion necessary to serve all citizens, including the transportation disadvantaged.

G. LONG-TERM CARE WORK GROUP

Overview The work group consisted of persons representing all facets of long-term care including professionals, consumers, providers, and the interested public. Our initial work was done in 5 break-out groups which created declarative statements describing our current system of long-term care and where we wanted to be with that same system.

The work group also developed a policy statement: *"Virginia needs a statewide long-term care system which ensures that all Virginians with long-term care needs will have those needs met in the most appropriate setting."*

Recommendations

- 1) Virginia should design a long-term care delivery system which includes: 1) coordination of services and programs; 2) elimination of duplication in administration; 3) identification of service gaps and the addition of appropriate services and programs to fill identified gaps; 4) a uniform assessment methodology to be used by all agencies; 5) a system of case management; 6) evaluation and monitoring of services to ensure quality of care; 7) the smooth transition from one care setting and level of care to another, as appropriate; 8) increased emphasis on home and community based care; and 9) education for all publics.
- 2) Virginia should develop a comprehensive financing system for long-term care which includes: 1) creative ways of developing and using public and private resources (e.g. volunteers, tax breaks, affordable long-term care insurance); 2) a balance of funding/resources between acute care and the long-term care; 3) the development of strategies which could be adopted at the federal level; 4) the equitable distribution of funds and resources between facility based care settings and home/community-based care

settings; and 5) provision of the maximum income and resource allowances afforded to "community spouses" under the spousal impoverishment provisions of the federal Medicaid laws.

- 3) The Governor should: 1) budget for sufficient staff support for the Long-Term Care Council; 2) broaden the representation of the Long-Term care Council to include consumers, the private sector, and providers; and 3) direct the Long-Term Care Council to accomplish recommendations 1 and 2 above by June 30, 1993.

H. HEALTH CARE REFORM WORK GROUP

Overview The Health Care Reform Work Group reviewed problems related to health care, recommendations for comprehensive reform at the national level, other state initiatives, and the perspectives of various stakeholder groups including business, providers, and the insurance industry. On the basis of informative presentations and group discussion, participants developed a mission statement for the group and three goals which derived directly from the mission statement.

Recommendations

The Governor's Conference on Aging reinforces the belief that quality, cost-effective, and affordable health care should be available to all Virginians. To that end, the Conference recommends that:

- 1) The Commission on Health Care for all Virginians be expanded to include representatives from additional "stakeholders" to include health care providers, consumers, and business and industry among others. The Commission is requested to develop, for the 1993 session of the Virginia General Assembly, specific legislation regarding: a. pooling resources of existing programs to reduce cost and duplication; b. providing tax incentives for employers who provide insurance (including long-term care insurance) for employees; c. establishing an "insurance trust pool" for the working uninsured; d. establishing a cap on punitive damages awarded in malpractice suits; e. expanding the Indigent Health Care Trust Fund to cover primary health care.
- 2) To achieve the goal of making basic health care accessible to all Virginians, the Commission on Health Care for All Virginians is requested to study all aspects of the establishment of a universal health insurance system in Virginia and prepare a report for consideration by the Governor and the 1993 Session of the Virginia General Assembly. Also, in the 1992-94 biennium, the Governor should recommend and the General Assembly should enact legislation to implement the recommendations to be made at the conclusion of the ongoing primary care study (SJR 179) and also provide for: a. creation of additional primary care facilities and health clinics; b. expansion of the role of allied health professions in the provision of primary care; and c. provision for an increase in health professional scholarships.

- 3) To provide quality health care to all Virginians by increasing the knowledge of consumers, particularly regarding healthy lifestyles, the General Assembly should identify a single state agency to design and implement a program to educate the general public in the area of health promotion and prevention of illness by utilizing existing public private volunteer programs and services.

CHAPTER 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the Conference the recommendations were communicated to the Office of the Governor with appropriate recommendations for implementation. Several recommendations already have been acted upon and the Governor has requested that the Department for the Aging develop action plans to begin implementation of all of the recommendations within the coming biennium.

A summary follows of the status of the recommendations at the adjournment of the 1992 General Assembly:

CAREGIVING

- 1) **In-home care and adult day care**
Action: Submitted budget addendum for 1992 General Assembly, which restored \$125,000 for home delivered meals to the frail elderly.
- 2) **Tax benefit for informal caregivers**
Action: House Joint Resolution 63 (Purkey), passed by the 1992 General Assembly, authorizes a study of tax benefits for caregivers by the Commission on Health Care for All Virginians.
- 3) **Innovative resources for caregiving**
Action: Applied for and received Administration on Aging demonstration grant to develop this proposal and establish a statewide coalition in support of family caregivers.

PERSONAL HEALTH AND LIFESTYLES

- 1) **Comprehensive wellness education plan**
Action: Senate Joint Resolution 119 (Walker) authorizes the Commission on Health Care for all Virginians to develop a plan for health education and wellness centers.
- 2) **Computerized statewide drug monitoring system**
Action: Coordinated with Governor's discretionary grant for Drug Abuse and Medication Misuse by the Elderly, beginning with a statewide symposium held in November, 1991.
- 3) **Incentives for preventive health programs**
Action: Begin with 1992 internal study with Bureau of Insurance.

LEGAL ISSUES WORK GROUP

- 1) **"The Older Virginians Protection Act"**
Action: Senate Bill 4 (Gartlan), making abuse or neglect of incapacitated adults a Class 1 misdemeanor, was passed by the 1992 General Assembly.
- 2) **Conference on legal and judicial access needs**
Action: Established a conference development committee with Chief Justice Carrico, who will convene a conference in 1993.
- 3) **a. Revisions to guardianship provisions of the Code**

Action: Senate Bill 149 (Garlan) and House Bill 407 (Van Landingham) were passed by the 1992 General Assembly.

b. Recognition of durable powers of attorney, etc.

Action: Senate Bill 254 (C. Holland) and House Bill 819 (Cohen), the "Health Care Decisions Act", revising the living will and adding a uniform medical power of attorney to the Code of Virginia, were passed by the 1992 General Assembly.

HOUSING

1) "Blue Ribbon Panel"

Action: Making senior housing recommendations through an existing body at the Dept. of Housing & Community Development, the "Housing as a Basic Need Advisory Group", which has the same mission.

2) Housing Developer Projects

Action: Working cooperatively with Housing & Community Development and the VA Housing Development Authority.

3) Model Zoning Guidelines

Action: Gave input to the Virginia Housing Study Commission.

ECONOMIC SECURITY WORK GROUP

1) Protection of unallocated pension funds

Action: Will begin a preliminary study with State Corporation Commission in 1992.

2) Pre-retirement planning and education

Action: Assess current practices, then possibly pilot with major corporation and Virginia Retirement System.

3) Streamlining application process for benefit programs

Action: Testing a model through the Long-Term Care Pilot Project. Expanding outreach in 1992 through Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Department for the Visually Handicapped.

TRANSPORTATION WORK GROUP

1. Human Services Transportation Council

Action: HB 95 (Hall) creating the Specialized Transportation Council, was passed by the 1992 General Assembly.

2. a. Funding for transportation by Area Agencies on Aging

Action: Submitted budget addendum for the 1992 General Assembly which was not adopted.

b. Incentive fund for transportation coordination

Action: Submitted budget amendments for the 1992 General Assembly which were not adopted. Department is promoting the state income tax check-off as an alternate funding source.

3. Full funding for public transportation

Action: Recommended by the Department through the Transportation Committee of the Beyer Commission in October, 1991.

LONG-TERM CARE WORK GROUP

- 1) **Model long-term care delivery system**
Action: Working on several issues through the Long-Term Care Council.
- 2) **Comprehensive financing system for long-term care**
Action: Working on several issues through the Commission on Health Care for All Virginians.
- 3) **Strengthen the Long-Term Care Council**
Action: Senate Bill 151 (Lucas) extends the Council; other recommendations will be implemented by 1993.

HEALTH CARE REFORM WORK GROUP

- 1) **Recommendations to the Commission on Health Care for All Virginians**
Action: Communicated to the Commission.
- 2) **Accessible basic health care for all Virginians**
Action: Budget adopted by the 1992 General Assembly added \$3,300,000 for prenatal and primary care for low income families and \$360,000 to provide 6 additional scholarships for doctors who will work in underserved areas.
- 3) **Single state agency to lead health promotion**
Action: Senate Bill 501, establishing a Joint Commission on Health Care, was passed by the 1992 General Assembly. This recommendation will be made to the Joint Commission.

APPENDIX A:
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43

Requesting the Governor to institute a biennial Conference on Aging.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 30, 1990
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 28, 1990

WHEREAS, our older citizens have a lifetime of skills and knowledge which they can devote to many of the serious and complex issues facing the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, active involvement in the legislative process by older Virginians is a positive approach to maintaining consistent and effective input from all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, the Department for the Aging, and local area agencies on aging have sponsored the 1983, 1985, and 1987 Silver-Haired Legislatures which provided an invaluable educational experience for 400 older individuals; and

WHEREAS, the funding and operation of this important event place a strain on the limited resources of the sponsors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That a biennial Governor's Conference on Aging be established and the first conference be held in 1990. Each conference will provide participants with an opportunity to become more familiar and involved with the legislative process and will utilize the wealth of experience and wisdom which older Virginians can provide. The conferences will also prepare the Commonwealth for National White House Conferences on Aging. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall assist the Governor's office as appropriate. All proceedings shall be coordinated with the clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate prior to the conferences. A written report of the activities of each conference shall be submitted to the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate by December 1 of each year in which the conference is held.

APPENDIX B:

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA--1990 SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 203

Requesting the Governor to institute a biennial Conference on Aging.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 1, 1990

Agreed to by the Senate, February 27, 1990

WHEREAS, our older citizens have a lifetime of skills and knowledge which they can devote to many of the serious and complex issues facing the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, active involvement in the legislative process by older Virginians is a positive approach to maintaining consistent and effective input from all citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Advisory Board on Aging, the Department for the Aging, and local area agencies on aging have sponsored the 1983, 1985, and 1987 Silver-Haired Legislatures which provided an invaluable educational experience for 400 older individuals; and

WHEREAS, the funding and operation of this important event place a strain on the limited resources of the sponsors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a biennial Governor's Conference on Aging be established and the first conference be held in 1990. Each conference will provide participants with an opportunity to become more familiar and involved with the legislative process and will utilize the wealth of experience and wisdom which older Virginians can provide. The conferences will also prepare the Commonwealth for National White House Conferences on Aging. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall assist the Governor's office as appropriate. All proceedings shall be coordinated with the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate prior to the conferences. A written report of the activities of each conference shall be submitted to the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate by December 1 of each year in which the conference is held.

APPENDIX C: WORK GROUP STAFF

HOUSING

Facilitator: *Robert G. Lawson, Deputy Director, VA Dept. of Economic Development*
Moderator: *Mary Ellen Cox, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Faye Cates, Housing Specialist, Department for the Aging*

CAREGIVING

Facilitator: *Sarah Jenkins, Asst. to the Commissioner, Dept. of Rehabilitative Services*
Moderator: *William Egelhoff, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Cathy Saunders, Special Assistant, Department for the Aging*

LEGAL ISSUES

Facilitator: *Kathy Vesley, Deputy Director, Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*
Moderator: *Ernest Yeatts, Vice Chairman, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Bill Fascitelli, Planning Specialist, Department for the Aging*

TRANSPORTATION

Facilitator: *The Reverend James Payne*
Moderator: *Leroy McAllister, Sr.; Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Dianne Woodworth, Program Unit Manager, Department for the Aging*

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Facilitator: *Carol Amato, Commissioner, Department of Labor and Industry*
Moderator: *Ruth Kernodle, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Heyward McElveen, Deputy Commissioner, Department for the Aging*

PERSONAL HEALTH AND LIFESTYLE

Facilitator: *Barbara Hulburt, Director of Dispute Resolution, Supreme Court of Virginia*
Moderator: *Paul Behrens, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Ron Handy, Program Specialist, Department for the Aging*

LONG-TERM CARE

Facilitator: *Michael Pyles, Asst. Director for Health Services Research, VA Center on Aging*
Moderator: *Johnnye Thompson, Chair, Governor's Advisory Board on Aging*
Staff: *Virginia Dize, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Department for the Aging*

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Facilitator: *Dr. Joseph Wittemann, Assistant Dean, Medical College of Virginia*
Moderator: *William Lukhard, State Legislative Chair, AARP*
Staff: *Janet Lynch, Director, State Long-Term Care Council*

APPENDIX D: CONTRIBUTORS

The 1991 Governor's Conference on Aging was made possible by contributions from

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