

# **1999 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DISABILITY COMMISSION**

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



## **HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 100**

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
RICHMOND  
2000**





# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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*February 16, 2000*

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TO: The Honorable James S. Gilmore, III

and

The General Assembly of Virginia

In my capacity as Chairman of the Disability Commission, I am pleased to submit the 1999 Annual Report pursuant to House Resolution 274, agreed to by the 1994 General Assembly.

This report conveys findings and legislative recommendations resulting from the Commission's work during the 1999 interim. The Commission met five times during the 1999 interim to hear public testimony and to consider study findings from the SJR 170 (1999) evaluation of the work of the Disability Commission over the past decade. Although there are a number of long-standing vacant positions on the Disability Commission a substantial amount of work was conducted during 1999. The Commission considered progress made and improvements needed by people with disabilities in Virginia in critical areas such as transportation, employment, housing, youth transition services, independent living, and accessibility. During the Spring of 1999 Commission members conducted town hall meetings in eleven localities across Virginia which were attended by hundreds of disability stakeholders, including consumers and service providers. Consumer input from the town meetings and the findings of several specialized studies conducted under the auspices of SJR 170 were integrated into recommendations emanating from the SJR 170 study -- including a key recommendation to continue the valuable and productive work of the Disability Commission.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature of John H. Hager in black ink, written over a horizontal line.  
John H. Hager  
Lieutenant Governor



## **1999 Annual Report of the Disability Commission**

### **Introduction**

Since 1990, thousands of Virginians with disabilities have benefited from legislation and funding initiatives that have been supported and put forward by the Disability Commission. The Commission, formally titled the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support of Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities, was established pursuant to House Joint Resolution 45 (Appendix A) to assess the delivery of services to Virginia's citizens with physical and sensory disabilities. It is chaired by the Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth and is comprised of sixteen members.

The 1992 Report of the Commission established a ten-year plan of action, which formed a system of programs and services within an infrastructure designed to be consumer-focused and community-based. The General Assembly in 1994 passed House Joint Resolution 274 (HJR 274, Appendix B) which authorized the Commission to continue its work in developing and reviewing recommendations for service program changes and funding until the year 2000. HJR 274 also designated the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities as the agency to provide administrative support to the Commission. In 1994 HJR 83 requested the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to evaluate the implementation of the recommendations made in the Commission's 1992 Report. This evaluation, completed in the summer of 1995, provided an overview of the Commission's accomplishments to date and identified continuing gaps in services affecting individuals with physical and sensory disabilities.

As with other legislative commissions, the Disability Commission is time limited. It was requested in HJR 274 that an evaluation occur prior to the tenth year that would look at the Commission's effectiveness in accomplishing its recommendations, including consideration of its future. In 1998, the General Assembly passed Senate Joint Resolution 170 (SJR 170, Appendix C) which required that the evaluation occur and that recommendations be made to the 2000 Session of the General Assembly. Since the passage of this resolution, the Disability Commission has closely examined the progress that has been made in increasing the availability of services to people with physical and sensory disabilities, and identifying issues that continue to need examination and resolution. Along with an examination of the accomplishments of the past ten years, SJR 170 requested the Disability Commission to examine the need for its continuance and, if it was to continue, what its future agenda would be.

As it has every year for the past 8 years, the Commission examined progress made regarding the legislative priorities it forwards to the General Assembly. This year's examination was formalized under the direction of SJR 170 and was the major focus of the Disability Commission's annual activities. Recommendations emanating from the findings of the SJR 170 Disability Commission evaluation resulted in study resolutions,

budget amendments, and bills patroned by members of the Commission. The report which follows presents the major activities undertaken by the Disability Commission during the 1999 interim and lays out the Commission's legislative agenda for the 2000 General Assembly Session.

## **THE 1999 INTERIM: DISABILITY COMMISSION ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**

During the 1999 Interim, the Disability Commission met five times between August, 1999 and January, 2000. The purpose of the first four meetings was to hear and discuss the findings from the SJR 170 study (the Disability Commission Evaluation). The fifth meeting, held in January, 2000, was for the express purpose of establishing a legislative agenda for the 2000 General Assembly Session. The following is a summary of the information presented and the recommendations made during the four Disability Commission meetings.

### **August 11, 1999 Meeting (9:00 am – 12:00 noon)**

At its first meeting during the 1999 Interim, the Disability Commission's meeting agenda included:

- Discussion of the responsibility of Commission members in analyzing the findings emanating from the SJR 170 studies.
- Agreement to change the format of the Disability Commission meetings for the Interim Session which would utilize the public comments made during the town meetings and the input from members of the disability community during the past year, rather than rely on public comment periods during this year's meetings.
- Overview of the 1999 Interim meeting plan for the Disability Commission.
- An introduction to the findings and a review of planned SJR 170 methodology.
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Awareness of the Disability Commission – data collected from (1) a statewide survey of consumer satisfaction with services and supports conducted with over 2000 individuals in the Commonwealth with physical and sensory disabilities; and (2) a series of 11 town meetings held during the Spring of 1999.
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Overview of the Efficacy of Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) Sponsored Initiatives – Disability Services Council, Disability Services Boards, Rehabilitative Services Incentive Fund, Consumer Services Fund, Assistive Technology Regional Sites, Assistive Technology Loan Fund, Long-Term Rehabilitative Case Management, and Centers for Independent Living (CILs) initiatives.

Findings from the SJR 170 study were presented by Dr. John Kregel, who served as director of the study. Staff from DRS and a representative of the Disability Services Council responded to the findings.

### **September 14, 1999 Meeting (9:00 am – 12:00 noon)**

The second meeting of the Disability Commission was held to continue providing findings of the SJR 170 study. Agenda items included:

- SJR 170 Study Findings: Overview of the Review of Non-DRS Sponsored Funding Initiatives – Response to the findings was presented by the Commissioner of the Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped (VDVH) and the Director of the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (VDDHH).
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Results of the Review of Eight Administrative and Policy Recommendations Made by the Commission in its 1992 Report.
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Employment Report – Response to the findings was presented by the Acting Commissioner of DRS and the Commissioner of VDVH.
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Results of the Youth Transition and Needs Survey; Projection of Unmet Service Needs.
- Viewing of the SJR 170 Town Meeting Video.

During this second meeting of the Disability Commission, staff to the SJR 170 study presented the findings.

### **November 9, 1999 Meeting (9:00 am – 12:00 noon)**

The third meeting of the Disability Commission was held to review the remaining findings of the SJR 170 study. In addition to the SJR 170 study findings, the Commission was presented with findings and recommendations from selected studies done during the past year that affect people with physical and sensory disabilities. Agenda items included:

- Developmental Disabilities Waiver – Update on the status of the Waiver presented by the Director and representatives from the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS).
- Access to Capitol Square Buildings – Report presented by representatives from the Department of General Services and the Department for Rights of Virginians with Disabilities.
- SJR 170 Study Findings: Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Services – Response to the findings was presented by the Director of DMAS.
- SJR 170 and SJR 456 Study Findings: Housing for People with Disabilities in Virginia – Findings of two reports presented by SJR 170 study staff and representatives from the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- SJR 170 and Budget Item 514 #4c Study Findings: Transportation for People with Disabilities in Virginia – Findings of the 2 reports were presented by a SJR 170 Study Consultant and a representative of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation.

In addition, information from the Adult Needs Assessment conducted in conjunction with the Disability Services Boards was presented to the Commission.

**December 8, 1999 (9:00 am – 12:00 noon)**

The purpose of the fourth meeting of the Disability Commission was to adopt recommendations based on the findings of the SJR 170 study and reports from other related studies, and to identify legislative priorities for the 2000 General Assembly Session. To prepare for its discussion and in order to make specific recommendations regarding its future, the Disability Commission had an ad-hoc subcommittee meeting on December 7, 1999. The agenda of the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting included:

- Adoption of Recommendations: Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver Proposal
- Adoption of Recommendations: Access to Capitol Square Study
- Adoption of Recommendations: SJR 170 Study
- Discussion on the Future of the Disability Commission

Time did not permit finalization of a legislative agenda during the December meeting therefore Commission members agreed to meet in January prior to the opening of the 2000 General Assembly Session.

**January 10, 2000 (2:00 pm – 3:45 pm)**

Although the purpose of this fifth and final meeting of the Disability Commission during the 1999 Interim was to finalize its legislative agenda and identify patrons, the Commission welcomed public comment at the beginning of the meeting. The following is a summary of the comments made:

- Request for Commission support of the LETC – Work Opportunity budget amendment promoted by the Virginia Rehabilitation Association.
- Need to continue to encourage VHDA to focus on the housing needs of individuals with disabilities.
- Request for support of a \$15 million budget amendment to assist in meeting the transportation needs of people with disabilities.
- Request for consideration for funding of the Disability Consortium in order to train paraprofessional staff (specifically mentioned were neuro-technicians).
- Request that the Commission examine the need for vocational programs that prepare individuals with disabilities to work.
- Request for support of a \$5.2 million budget amendment to provide ongoing support to existing CILs.
- Request for support of a budget amendment that creates a teleconferencing project that will link three CILs to entire community (\$300,000 for computer hardware).
- Request for support for additional funding of the Assistive Technology Loan Fund.



- Need for awareness that state funding match and legislative approval will be required for Virginia to implement the federal Work Incentives Improvement Act, especially for the Medicaid-Buy In.
- Request for legislation that would require individuals with disabilities to be on screening teams for individuals requesting Medicaid Waiver services.

The Disability Commission finalized its legislative agenda at this meeting. The items agreed upon for inclusion in the agenda and the Chief Patrons are listed in Appendix D.

## **THE 2000 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA OF THE DISABILITY COMMISSION**

### **Continuation of the Disability Commission**

The Disability Commission elected to go forward with a resolution extending the Commission for an additional ten-year period. It was envisioned that the first year efforts would consist of the development of a strategic plan based on findings from the SJR 170 study from which priorities could be set for subsequent Commission activities.

There was discussion that the focus of the Commission would likely expand from development of programs to meet individual service needs (such as Personal Assistance Services, Independent Living Services, and the Consumer Services Fund) into activities specifically addressing crosscutting service needs (such as employment, housing and transportation). It was further suggested that the composition of the Commission might be modified to provide greater appointing flexibility to the House, the Senate, and the Governor, and two individuals with disabilities would be added to the Governor's appointees. The Lieutenant Governor would be named Chair of the Commission in the resolution.

With respect to the staffing of the Commission in the future, much discussion revolved around how to most efficiently and effectively use existing resources and the information already being developed by entities of state government. The Lieutenant Governor stated that his staff would assume the legislative coordination role (interacting with legislators and carrying Commission legislation) since this is not an appropriate role for the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities (the Board). It was suggested that the policy analysis and constituent activities functions could continue to be assigned to the Board, however, based on the increasing responsibilities of the Commission, a future role for the Board would require that additional staff support and resources. It was further recommended that any continuing resolution should be clear as to the inter-governmental cooperation that would be necessary for the Commission to function effectively.

### **Disability Services Boards**

In examining the activities of Disabilities Services Boards (DSBs) as part of the SJR 170 study, it was apparent that there was need to make changes in the Code of

Virginia to allow for a less frequent DSB needs assessment and to clarify the role of DRS with the DSBs. Therefore, the Commission made the recommendation to put forth legislation that would decrease the frequency of required reporting of needs to every three years and to add language to the Code that specifies that DRS has the responsibility to administer funding and provide guidance and technical assistance to local DSBs. Language was also proposed that allows and encourages localities to provide additional supplemental staff support to their DSBs.

### **Specialized Transportation**

The SJR 170 Study found that coordinated efforts for specialized transportation services for people with disabilities are fragmented among Virginia's state agencies. However, providers at the local level are doing a good job of coordinating transportation services and utilizing transportation funding. The Specialized Transportation Council, which is under the auspices of the Office of the Governor, has not met in nearly three years. It was the original intent of the Disability Commission that the Council would play a pivotal role in coordinating resources to meet the transportation needs of the Commonwealth's citizens with disabilities. The Disability Commission reaffirmed the need for coordination of transportation services by recommending legislation to re-activate the Specialized Transportation Council; suggesting that its placement be within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; by recommending a budget amendment to provide funding for the Transportation Incentive Fund that would be overseen by the Council.

### **Capitol Square Access Study**

The Capitol Square Access Study identified physical access to main entrances of public buildings as a Priority I concern. Physical access along paths from main entrances to areas where services, programs or activities are provided to the public were identified in the study as Priority II concerns. Priority III concerns included those that relate to public access to restroom facilities while Priority IV concerns were identified as those that related to having access within areas where services, programs or activities are provided to the public.

After intense discussion and examination of the projected costs of the modifications needed to increase accessibility, the Disability Commission made a decision to recommend a budget amendment that would cover the costs of Priority I modifications and those which address the accessibility needs in bathrooms in the General Assembly and Capitol buildings.

### **Centers for Independent Living**

At the December meeting of the Disability Commission, information was presented that a proposed budget amendment was under consideration to create a new Center for Independent Living in the Harrisonburg area. Members of the Commission

were asked for their support of this potential budget amendment. A recommendation was made to incorporate this budget amendment into the Commission's legislative agenda.

### **Long-Term Rehabilitation Case Management**

The Long-Term Rehabilitation Case Management (LTRCM) program is viewed quite favorably by consumers. Furthermore, SJR 170 study data collected by DRS documents the efficacy of the program. The program consistently maintains a lengthy waiting list and serves only a fraction of the individuals who could benefit from it. The Disability Commission recommended adding a budget amendment to its legislative agenda to address the waiting list by funding 1 FTE staff position in an under served area of the Commonwealth.

### **Consumer Services Fund**

The SJR 170 study found that the Consumer Services Fund is highly valued by consumers, appears to meet an important need within the state, and is effectively and efficiently managed. Requests for funds routinely exceed the funds available by a significant amount. The Disability Commission recommended that funding be requested through a budget amendment to address documented need.

### **DRS Personal Assistance Services**

Current consumer-directed personal assistance services (PAS) programs in the State serve only a portion of the needy population. At the time of the SJR 170 study, the DRS-PAS program was serving 180 individuals. Based on the needs assessment data collected through the SJR 170 evaluation, there will be an increasing need for Personal Assistance Services over the next 5 years. The survey of the future needs of students with disabilities exiting Virginia schools indicates that as many as 250 students annually may be in need of PAS services once they enter the community. To address current and projected need, the Disability Commission recommended a budget amendment for DRS-PAS.

### **Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority**

At the August meeting, the Disability Commission was provided data that indicated that the Assistive Technology Loan Fund (ATLFA) would run out of capital needed for new loans during FY 2000. A budget amendment for re-capitalization of the Loan Fund was not funded during the 1999 General Assembly Session. The Disability Commission added the ATLFA to its new legislative agenda at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## APPENDICES

Appendix A	HJR 45
Appendix B	HJR 274
Appendix C	SJR 170
Appendix D	Legislative Agenda of the Disability Commission, the 2000 Session
Appendix E	Members of the Disability Commission, 1999-2000

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA-1990 SESSION

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

### Appendix A

*Creating a Commission on the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support for Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in the Commonwealth.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 9, 1990

Agreed to by the Senate, March 7, 1990

WHEREAS, 350,961 citizens in the Commonwealth are affected by physically disabling conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the goals, responsibilities, and desired outcomes of the public and private sector regarding persons with disabilities receive legislative review to facilitate the availability, accessibility, and coordination of essential services and to ensure the participation of the consumers of such services in the review process; and

WHEREAS, categorical funding sources and current performance standards often circumscribe interagency coordination in meeting the needs of such persons for individualized services; and

WHEREAS, identification and implementation of a regionalized service continuum throughout the Commonwealth requires the development of a meaningful system for the coordination and delivery of services and consistent interpretation of the concept, "least restrictive environment"; and

WHEREAS, goals and processes are required to ensure persons with physical and sensory disabilities access to appropriate levels of care and opportunities for optimum self-sufficiency and employment; and

WHEREAS, the needs of persons with physical and sensory disabilities frequently exceed the program, services, and resources configuration of public agencies; and

WHEREAS, eligibility criteria, exclusions, waiting periods, and gaps in benefits and services in public and private third-party health insurance coverage leave many such persons without resources to pay for medical and rehabilitative services; and

WHEREAS, there is the need to better integrate the role and responsibilities of public education in providing special education as required under P. L. 94-142, as amended, and Article 2 (§ 22.1-213 et seq.) of Chapter 13 of Title 22.1 of the Code of Virginia, with human service and economic development agencies to enhance special education programs and to facilitate transition programs for handicapped and disabled children and youth; and

WHEREAS, fragmentation and perceived inadequacies in public programs and involvement of the private sector in selected service areas can result in competitive, duplicative, and expensive public services; and

WHEREAS, an accountable and integrated service delivery system for persons with physical and sensory disabilities should be established congruently with the development and enhancement of public and private rehabilitative agencies and programs, these issues requiring immediate attention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a Commission on the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support for Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in the Commonwealth be created. The Commission shall be composed of sixteen members to be appointed as follows: two members each of the House Committees on Health, Welfare and Institutions and on Appropriations, one member of the House Committee on Education, and one member of the House of Delegates at large to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one member each of the Senate Committees on Education and Health, on Rehabilitation and Social Services, and on Finance to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; and one member each of the business community, the health insurance industry, and the health care industry, one educator certified in special education, one licensed practicing physician who shall have expertise in emergency medicine and trauma care or neurosurgery, the Lieutenant Governor, and one citizen at-large to be appointed by the Governor.

For the purposes of this study, physical and sensory disability shall include temporary and permanent motoric impairment sustained by disease of or injury to the central nervous system, traumatic brain injury, and disabilities resulting from disease or injury to the sensory system. The Commission shall review and consider the findings and recommendations referred to it for action in the report of the Joint Subcommittee Studying the Needs of Head and Spinal Cord Injured Citizens, the Need for Research and the Needs of All Physically Handicapped Persons. The Commission shall, among other activities: (i) review and determine the measures and incentives that provide for accountability and support coordinated services for persons with physical and sensory disabilities. (ii) develop

strategies for optimum use of public and private fiscal resources and insurance. (iii) determine methods to address the gaps in eligibility criteria for services and the service delivery system that inhibit access to needed services and employment opportunities. (iv) develop human resource models to facilitate rehabilitation-oriented case management and other professional support for persons with physical and sensory disabilities. (v) evaluate the need for and recommend strategies for research and a system to provide post-acute and long-term rehabilitation for traumatic injury and specified disability groups. (vi) identify and develop service delivery models to address the multifaceted and long-term needs for treatment, community support, transportation, housing, employment, job training, vocational and career counseling, and job placement services, and (vii) determine ways to promote coordination and cost-sharing of programs and services between public and private rehabilitative and educational entities.

The Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall ensure that the Commission is appropriately staffed. All agencies shall provide assistance upon request in the manner deemed appropriate by the Commission.

The Commission shall submit an interim report on the actions taken in 1990 to the 1991 Session of the General Assembly, and pursuant to procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents, shall submit a final report by October 31, 1991, in order to provide data for the preparation of the Governor's 1992-94 budget recommendations to the General Assembly.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$17,280.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1994 SESSION

## Appendix B

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 274

*Continuing the Commission on the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support of Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities, hereafter to be known as the Disability Commission.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 11, 1994

Agreed to by the Senate, February 28, 1994

WHEREAS, in 1990, the Commission on the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support for Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities, hereafter to be known as the Disability Commission, was established to assess the delivery of services to persons with physical and sensory disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Disability Commission issued its final report to the Governor and the 1992 Session of the General Assembly, including its comprehensive 10-year plan for addressing the identified service needs, legislative initiatives and budget amendments in response to its findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, in its 1994 Report to the Governor and General Assembly, the Disability Commission continues to assess service needs and barriers to service delivery and has proposed a number of service initiatives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Disability Commission be continued to provide review and oversight of the implementation of its recommendations, including those that have not been funded, and any recommendations that may arise during the course of implementing its 10-year plan. In addition, the Disability Commission shall receive, evaluate and make recommendations based upon the report by the Consumer/Interagency Task Force on Individual and Family Support Services.

Disability Commission members appointed pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 257 of 92 shall continue to serve as members with full voting privileges. Vacancies in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the manner provided in the original resolution. The membership of the Disability Commission shall be expanded by one member who shall be from the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$7,350 each year. An estimated \$3,400 is allocated for the printing of documents and such expenses shall be funded from the operational budget of the Clerk of the House of Delegates.

The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request.

The Disability Commission shall submit its findings and recommendations annually to the Governor and the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents. The Disability Commission shall complete its study and submit a comprehensive report on the status of services for persons with physical and sensory disabilities to the Governor and the 2000 Session of the General Assembly.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

## Appendix C

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 170

*Requesting the Disability Commission to establish a legislative oversight task force to study past progress, present status, and future delivery of services to people with disabilities in the Commonwealth.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 1998

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 12, 1998

WHEREAS, the Commission on the Coordination of the Delivery of Services to Facilitate the Self-Sufficiency and Support for Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities, known as the Disability Commission, was established in 1990 by the General Assembly to assess the delivery of services to persons with physical and sensory disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Disability Commission issued its final report to the Governor and the 1992 General Assembly, including its comprehensive 10-year plan for addressing the identified services needs, legislative initiatives, and budget amendments in response to its findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the 1992 report included the following recommendation: "A legislative oversight commission should be established in 1998 by resolution to review the progress of Disability Commission programs and funding recommendations and make recommendations for future direction for service delivery systems for persons with physical or sensory disabilities"; and

WHEREAS, the 1992 report also observed, "In 1998, a new Commission should evaluate the overall progress of the implementation of the Disability Commission recommendations. Additional needed services should be identified and appropriate funding recommended in order to address the unmet needs of persons with physical or sensory disabilities"; and

WHEREAS, House Joint Resolution No. 274, which in 1994 continued the Disability Commission, states that the Disability Commission "shall complete its study and submit a comprehensive report on the status of services for persons with physical and sensory disabilities to the Governor and the 2000 Session of the General Assembly"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Disability Commission establish a legislative oversight task force from its membership to study past progress, present status, and future delivery of services to people with disabilities in the Commonwealth. The task force shall evaluate the status of services for persons with physical and sensory disabilities and the implementation of the Disability Commission recommendations, and make recommendations for future activities of the Commission. The task force shall seek the advice and expertise of representatives of the Centers for Independent Living, local service providers, Disability Services Boards, and persons with sensory or physical disabilities or their family members.

The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities shall provide staff support for the study.

The task force's plan for the study shall be approved by the Disability Commission by November 1, 1998. The study plan shall specify the methodologies to be employed to assess (i) the impact of the accomplishments achieved as a direct result of recommendations made in the 1992 and other Disability Commission Reports; (ii) the impact of recommendations from Disability Commission reports which have not yet been met, such as establishing a disability consortium and meeting the health-related needs of people with disabilities; (iii) the unmet service needs of persons with physical and sensory disabilities, as well as prioritize unmet needs, and develop cost estimates associated with meeting these needs; and (iv) the effectiveness of the Disability Commission in accomplishing its recommendations, including consideration of the future of the Disability Commission itself.

The Disability Commission's task force shall complete its evaluation in time to make its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2000 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.



## **Appendix D**

### **LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DISABILITY COMMISSION PROPOSED FOR THE 2000 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION**

Listed below are the resolutions, bills, and budget amendments that comprise the legislative agenda that the Disability Commission adopted for introduction to the 2000 General Assembly Session.

#### **Resolutions**

- Joint Resolution to continue the Disability Commission

Patron: Delegate Landes  
Bill/Item # HJR 34

#### **Bills**

- Code change: § 51.5-48-4 of the Code of Virginia should be modified as follows:  
4. Review and update the report ~~biennially~~ every three years.

Patron: Delegate Tate  
Bill/Item #: HB 415

- Code change: § 51.5-47-D of the Code of Virginia should be modified to read:  
The Department of Rehabilitative Services shall administer funding appropriated to local disability services boards and provide guidance and technical assistance to the local boards. Localities may provide additional supplemental staff support to the boards.

Patron: Delegate Tate  
Bill/Item #: HB 415

- Transfer of Specialized Transportation Council responsibilities from Governor's Office to Lt. Governor's office.

Patron: Delegate VanLandingham  
Bill/Item #: HB 1321

### **Budget Amendments**

- Capitol Square Access Study Recommendations (\$500,000) - to fund priority area 1 and restrooms in GAB and the Capitol Building

Patrons: Delegate Landes (C2#1h)  
Senator Miller (C2#1s)

- Centers for Independent Living (\$250,000) - to DRS to fund one new CIL in Harrisonburg

Patrons: Delegate Landes (374#3h)  
Senator Miller (374 #5s)

- Long-Term Rehabilitation Case Management (\$50,000) – for 1 FTE in greatest need area

Patron: Delegate Bloxom (374#2h)

- Consumer Services Fund (\$100,000) – to DRS to address documented need for services on waiting list

Patron: Delegate VanLandingam (374#7h)

- Personal Assistance Services (\$500,000) – for DRS to address documented need for services on waiting list

Patron: Delegate VanLandingham (374#6h)

- Specialized Transportation Council (\$500,000) – to provide funding to Transportation Incentive Fund

Patron: Delegate VanLandingham (518#6h)

- Staff Support for Disability Commission (\$150,000) – 2.0 FTE for policy/research and administrative support at Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Patron: Delegate Bloxom (393#1h)

- Maintain funding for Assistive Technology Loan Fund Authority

Patron: Delegate Bloxom (374#11h)

## Appendix E

### Disability Commission Membership 1999-2000

	Position Represented	Appointed By	Authorization
John H. Hager, Lt. Gov.	Chairman	N/A	HJR 257 (1992) SJR 276 (1997)
<b>House Members</b>			
Kenneth R. Melvin (D) Portsmouth	HWI Committee Representative	House Speaker	HJR 45 (1990)
Robert D. Orrock, Sr.* (R) Spotsylvania	HWI Committee Representative	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Marian VanLandingham (D) Alexandria	House Appropriations Committee	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Robert S. Bloxom* (R) Accomoc	House Appropriations Committee	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
R. Steven Landes* (R) Weyers Cave	Education Committee	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
John H. Tate, Jr.* (D) Grayson	At-Large member of the House	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Alan E. Mayer <sup>1</sup>	Former member of the House		SJR 276 (1997)
<b>Senate Members</b>			
Stephen D. Newman* (R) Lynchburg	Education & Health	Senate Privileges and Elections	HJR 45 (1990)
Yvonne B. Miller (D) Norfolk	Rehabilitation & SS	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Joseph V. Gartlan, Jr. (D) Mason Neck	Senate Finance	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Jane H. Woods (R) Fairfax	Senator (at large)	Senate Privilege & Elections	HJR 274 (1994)
Frank W. Nolen <sup>1</sup>	Former member of the Senate		SJR 276 (1997)
<b>Citizen Members</b>			
● VACANT	Business/Community Rep.	Governor	HJR 45 (1990)
● VACANT	Health Insurance Industry Rep.	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
● VACANT	Health Care Industry Rep.	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
● VACANT	Licensed Physician-ER/Trauma	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
VACANT	Educator-Certified in Special Education	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
Charles H. Bonner, MD (Richmond)	Citizen at Large	" "	HJR 45 (1990)
<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>			
Claude A. Allen, Secretary of HHR	Ex-officio member	Lt. Gov. Beyer requested Secretary of HHR serve as ex-officio member of commission	

\*= 1998 appointments

