



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 567

February Session, 2000

Substitute House Bill No. 5793

House of Representatives, April 12, 2000

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. DYSON of the 94th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

An Act Establishing A Mental Health Commission And Requiring A Study Concerning The Establishment Of A Toxic Chemicals Notice To Consumers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. There is established a commission to study the state
2 system of delivering mental health services. The commission shall be
3 composed of the Commissioner of Mental Retardation, the
4 Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the
5 Commissioner of Children and Families and fifteen persons appointed
6 by the Governor who shall represent persons who receive mental
7 health services, their families and their advocates. The commission
8 shall examine alternative mental health delivery systems and
9 proposals and shall submit a report of its findings and
10 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly not later
11 than December 31, 2000, in accordance with the provisions of section
12 11-4a of the general statutes.

13 Sec. 2. The Commissioner of Public Health shall, within available
14 resources, study the feasibility of (1) establishing a list of chemicals
15 that are known to cause cancer, genetic mutations, physiological
16 malfunctions or physical deformities, and (2) requiring notice to
17 consumers concerning products that contain such chemicals. In
18 conducting such study, the commissioner shall consult with federal
19 and state agencies that maintain lists of carcinogens or toxins,
20 organizations representing children, health organizations, chemical
21 manufacturers and retail sellers of consumer goods. Not later than
22 January 1, 2001, the commissioner shall submit a report containing the
23 commissioner's findings and recommendations to the joint standing
24 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
25 relating to public health, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
26 general statutes.

PH Committee Vote: Yea 19 Nay 5 JFS C/R APP

APP Committee Vote: Yea 32 Nay 14 JF

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Cost

Affected Agencies: Departments of Mental Retardation, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Children and Families

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

State Impact:

It is anticipated that representatives of the Departments of Mental Retardation, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and Children and Families will be able to participate as members of the mental health commission within their respective agency's anticipated budgetary resources.

The Department of Public Health will incur an FY 01 cost of approximately \$75,000 to retain consultant services necessary to assist with the preparation of a required report on the feasibility of establishing a list of toxic chemicals and requiring notification of consumers concerning products containing these chemicals. The bill requires the report to be completed by January 1, 2001. No funding has been included within either the Senate or House versions of the Revised FY 01 Appropriations Act for this purpose.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5793

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION AND
REQUIRING A STUDY CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
TOXIC CHEMICALS NOTICE TO CONSUMERS.***

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze special acts.