



MAY 2014



NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as Chair of the Joint Commission over the last two years.

I look forward to continuing our work to provide reliable, objective, and timely analysis to improve health care in the Commonwealth. In so doing, I would ask that we also continue to examine how the needs of our military service members, veterans, and their families are being served.

Finally, I would like to recognize our former members, Senator Harry B. Blevins and Lt. Governor Ralph S. Northam for their many contributions and invite you to join me in welcoming our newly-appointed members Senator John S. Edwards and Senator Phillip P. Puckett.

PROPOSED STUDIES FOR 2014

Senate Bill 184 – Senator Jeffrey L. McWaters

House Bill 1097 – Delegate James M. LeMunyon

Admission of Minors for Inpatient Mental Health Treatment

Senate Joint Resolution 80 – Senator Frank M. Ruff, Jr.

Follow-Up Review of Access to Brain Injury Services

House Joint Resolution 68 – Delegate M. Keith Hodges

Review of Viral Hepatitis in the Commonwealth

JCHC-Approved Reviews from 2013

Dental Safety Net Capacity and Opportunities for Improving Oral Hygiene

JCHC Study: Costs Associated with Untreated Dental Disease

Targeted Review of Scope of Practice

JCHC Study: Update on the Virginia Physician Workforce Shortage

Workgroup Review of Factors Affecting Health Care Costs

JCHC Study: Factors Affecting Health Care Costs

Membership

Senator Linda T. Puller

Chair

Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III

Vice Chair

Senator George L. Barker

Senator Charles W. Carrico, Sr.

Senator John S. Edwards

Senator L. Louise Lucas

Senator Stephen H. Martin

Senator Jeffrey L. McWaters

Senator Phillip P. Puckett

Delegate Robert H. Brink

Delegate David L. Bulova

Delegate Benjamin L. Cline

Delegate Rosalyn R. Dance

Delegate T. Scott Garrett

Delegate Algie T. Howell, Jr.

Delegate Riley E. Ingram

Delegate Christopher K. Peace

Delegate Christopher P. Stolle

Secretary William A. Hazel, Jr.

Staff

Kim Snead

Stephen W. Bowman

Michele L. Chesser, Ph.D.

Sylvia A. Reid

REMINDER

The first JCHC meeting of 2014 will be held **Wednesday, June 11th at 10:00 a.m. in Senate Room A** in the General Assembly Building.

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES 2014 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

SB 60 – Senator Linda T. Puller HB 680 – Delegate Robert H. Brink

Amend the *Code of Virginia* § 30-170 to extend the sunset provision for the Joint Commission on Health Care to July 1, 2018.

SB 60 and HB 680 were passed as amended; *Acts of Assembly*, Chapters 518 and 280, respectively.

SB 201 – Senator Linda T. Puller HB 308 – Delegate Rosalyn R. Dance

Amend the *Code of Virginia* § 38.2-3407.9:01 to require that health insurers provide notice to all subscribers at least 30 days prior to moving a medication from one drug formulary tier to another.

SB 201 and HB 308 were passed as amended; *Acts of Assembly* Chapters 297 and 272, respectively.

SB 479 – Senator George L. Barker HB 681 – Robert H. Brink

Amend the *Code of Virginia* §§ 59.1-310.3 and 310.5 to prohibit individuals who are 14 years of age or younger from using a tanning device at a tanning facility and to prohibit individuals who are 15 – 17 years of age (and have not been emancipated) from using a tanning device at a tanning facility unless the individual's parent or legal guardian has given written consent.

SB 479 was continued to 2015; HB 681 was left in House Commerce and Labor.

HB 304 – Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III

Amend the *Code of Virginia* §§ 38.2-4319 and 4509 by adding § 38.2-3407.14:1 to define "specialty tier drug" and require health insurers to limit the out-of-pocket copay for subscribers to no more than \$150 per prescription for each specialty tier drug.

HB 304 was left in House Commerce and Labor

Budget Amendments Included in Committee-Reported Budget

Virginia Department of Health

Item 283 #2s - The Secretary of Health and Human Resources, in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health, to review and report to the Department of Planning and Budget and the chairmen of Senate Finance and House Appropriations on how to maximize State Loan Repayment Program funds. (JCHC-requested funding – \$400,000 GFs and \$400,000 NGFs per year – was not approved.)

Item 291 #3s - Funding of \$450,000 NGFs from the federal TANF block grant the first year and \$450,000 GFs the second year to restore funding for the Comprehensive Health Improvement Program (CHIP) to serve 113 additional families. (JCHC had requested \$900,000 GFs per year to provide support services to an additional 225 families.)

Department of Medical Assistance Services

Item 301 #4s - Funding of \$1.7 million GFs and \$1.8 million NGFs the first year and \$2.1 million GFs and \$2.3 million NGFs the second year to expand Medicaid dental-coverage (other than orthodontia) for pregnant women over the age of 21. (JCHC had requested funding to provide only preventive dental care for pregnant women – \$240,783 GFs/\$240,783 NGFs in FY 2015 and \$303,387 GFs/\$303,387 NGFs in FY 2016.)

Item 304 #1s - State funding of \$25,000 per year to allow the Virginia Center for Health Innovation to support work group efforts to identify core regional-population health measurements and to identify 25 quality and safety measures to improve hospital-related care, including a reduction in readmissions.