



MAY 2015



## Notes from the Chair

*Delegate O'Bannon*

As the 12<sup>th</sup> member to serve as Chair, I am honored to continue the very important work of the Joint Commission. To that end, our 2015 work plans will be considered and approved during our

first meeting of the year on **May 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 p.m.** in Senate Room A of the General Assembly Building.

I would like to take this opportunity to address recent membership changes and welcome our new members:

**Delegate Patrick A. Hope**      **Senator John S. Edwards**  
**Delegate Kaye Kory**          **Senator John C. Miller**  
**Delegate Roslyn C. Tyler**

as well as recognize the service and contributions of our departing House members:

**The Honorable Robert H. Brink**  
**The Honorable Rosalyn R. Dance**  
**The Honorable Algie T. Howell, Jr.**

## Message from the Vice Chair

*Senator Lucas*



I would like to join Delegate O'Bannon in greeting our new members and in recognizing our dedicated former members.

I also look forward to working with our fellow Commission members in seeking to address the barriers Virginians face in accessing high-quality health, behavioral health, and long-term care.



Delegate John M. O'Bannon III  
Chair

Senator L. Louise Lucas  
Vice Chair

Delegate David L. Bulova  
Delegate Benjamin L. Cline  
Delegate T. Scott Garrett  
Delegate Patrick A. Hope  
Delegate Riley E. Ingram  
Delegate Kaye Kory

Delegate Christopher K. Peace  
Delegate Christopher P. Stolle  
Delegate Roslyn C. Tyler

Senator George L. Barker  
Senator Charles W. Carrico, Sr.  
Senator John S. Edwards  
Senator Stephen H. Martin  
Senator Jeffrey L. McWaters  
Senator John C. Miller  
Senator Linda T. Puller

Secretary William A. Hazel, Jr.

### Staff

Kim Snead  
Michele L. Chesser, Ph.D.  
Portia L. Cole, Ph.D.  
Stephen Weiss  
Sylvia A. Reid

## LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

### 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

#### Senate Bill 779 - Senator Jeffrey L. McWaters

SB 779 sought to amend *Code of Virginia* §§ 16.1-338 and 16.1-339 in order to:

- i) increase the time that a non-consenting minor aged 14 or older could be held in an inpatient mental health facility from 96 to 120 hours;
- ii) make the basis for judicial authorization, to continue hospitalization despite the minor's objection, consistent with the criteria for a voluntary admission of a consenting minor; and
- iii) require that facility staff notify a parent immediately if his/her child (aged 14 or older) objects to further inpatient treatment while providing the parent with an explanation of the procedures for requesting continued treatment.

SB 773 (Senator McWaters) and HB 1717 (Delegate LeMunyon), companion bills which addressed two provisions included in SB 779, were considered and approved before SB 779 was heard in Senate Courts. Consequently, Senator McWaters asked that SB 779 be amended to address only the excluded provision - to increase the time a non-consenting minor may be held from 96 to 120 hours.

SB 773, HB 1717, and SB 779 were enacted (2015 Acts of Assembly Chapters 543, 504, and 535 respectively).

#### House Joint Resolution 534

##### Delegate John M. O'Bannon III

HJR 534, a memorial resolution celebrating the life of Stephen W. Bowman, was agreed to by both Chambers of the General Assembly. On February 11, 2015, the resolution was presented to Stephen's family in the House Chamber.



October 13, 1973 - December 3, 2014



#### Meeting Schedule for 2015

Thursday, May 28  
JCHC 1:15 p.m.

Wednesday, June 17  
JCHC 10:00 a.m.  
BHC Subcommittee 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 9  
HL/HS Subcommittee 10:00 a.m.  
BHC Subcommittee 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 7  
JCHC 10:00 a.m.  
HL/HS Subcommittee 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 4  
JCHC 10:00 a.m.

All meetings are scheduled to meet in Senate Room A of the General Assembly Building