

## **Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (Senate Joint Resolution 73 (2010))**

**Senate Joint Resolution 73 (2010)** continued the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment for one additional year, through December of 2010. Pursuant to SJR 73, the joint subcommittee shall:

- Continue to process information received and models and strategies identified by the joint subcommittee during the 2009 interim, in order to:
  - (i) identify and characterize the nature of substance abuse in the Commonwealth;
  - (ii) identify current state policies and programs targeting substance abuse prevention and treatment;
  - (iii) examine the cost of such policies and programs to the Commonwealth;
  - (iv) identify and examine policies and prevention programs from other leading states in the field of substance abuse and prevention; and
  - (v) compare the Commonwealth's substance abuse prevention and treatment programs and policies with those of the leading states.
- Continue the work groups established during the 2009 interim to explore issues related to substance abuse treatment, substance abuse prevention, and special issues related to the abuse of prescription medication.
- Receive data on and information collected by the Bureau of Insurance of the State Corporation Commission pursuant to the Senate Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 74 (2010), directing the Bureau of Insurance to collect data and information on the coverage provided by health insurers, health services plans, and health maintenance organizations for substance abuse treatment services, including:
  - (i) the number of complaints received in 2009 by health insurers, health services plans, and health maintenance organizations regarding coverage of substance abuse services as reported by these entities pursuant to § [38.2-511](#) and subsection C of § [38.2-5804](#) of the Code of Virginia;
  - (ii) the number of complaints the Bureau of Insurance received in 2009 concerning coverage of substance abuse services by health insurers, health services plans, and health maintenance organizations pursuant to § [38.2-3412.1](#) of the Code of Virginia; and
  - (iii) the cost and utilization information for substance abuse services, which shall be reported by health insurers, health services plans, and health maintenance organizations to the Bureau in a manner consistent with the substance abuse information reported pursuant to § [38.2-3419.1](#) of the Code of Virginia.
- Receive, review, and develop recommendations regarding steps that the Commonwealth may take to address barriers to mandated insurance coverage of substance abuse services developed and reported by the Bureau of Insurance of the State Corporation Commission pursuant to the Senate Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute for Senate Joint Resolution No. 74 (2010).

**Joint Subcommittee to Study  
Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
(Senate Joint Resolution 73 (2010))**

- Receive data and information about utilization of the Prescription Monitoring Program by prescribers and dispensers of controlled substances and responses to notifications sent by the Department of Health Professions to prescribers collected by the Department pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 75 (2010), as amended by the Senate, directing the Department to collect data on and information about utilization of the Prescription Monitoring Program by prescribers and dispensers of controlled substances and responses to notifications sent by the Department to prescribers including, for each month of 2010:
  - (i) the number of registered users eligible to receive reports from the Prescription Monitoring Program;
  - (ii) the number of reports of dispensing of covered medications submitted to the Prescription Monitoring Program;
  - (iii) the number of exemptions from reporting requirements authorized;
  - (iv) the number of requests for information from registered users made and responded to;
  - (v) the number of notifications of indications of potential misuse or abuse of covered substances sent to prescribers, and the number and nature of responses to such notifications;
  - (vi) the number of responses to requests for information relevant to an investigation of a specific recipient, prescriber, or dispenser made, and the agency or entity to which such information was released; and
  - (vii) the number of disciplinary proceedings initiated by a health regulatory board against a person required to report dispensing of a covered substance to the Prescription Monitoring Program for failure to report as required.
- Receive and review any recommendations for changes to the Prescription Monitoring Program, and any other information relevant to the use of the Prescription Monitoring Program reported by the Department of Health Professions pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution No. 75 (2010), as amended by the Senate.

**Meetings**

SJR 73 (2010) authorizes the joint subcommittee to hold four meetings during the 2010 interim, and all meetings must be concluded by November 30, 2010.

Pursuant to House Joint Resolution 9, approved by the General Assembly during the 2010 Session, meetings of any interim study subcommittee must be held on the Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday of the first or third full weeks of the month, unless otherwise authorized by the Speaker of the House of Delegates or the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules, as may be appropriate for the house in which the chairman serves.

Work groups continued from 2009 by SJR 73 are not restricted with regards to the day and time of the meetings; work groups will continue to meet on a schedule convenient to the workgroup members, as approved by the joint subcommittee.

**Joint Subcommittee to Study  
Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
(Senate Joint Resolution 73 (2010))**

**Staff**

Administrative staff support will be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the Senate. Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the joint subcommittee will be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. Staff assignments for the SJR 73 Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment for the 2010 interim are:

**Senate Operations staff:**

Angi Murphy, Assistant Coordinator of Committee Operations  
Email: amurphy@senate.virginia.gov  
Phone: (804) 698-7450

**Division of Legislative Services staff:**

Sarah E.B. Stanton, Staff Attorney  
Email: sstanton@dls.virginia.gov  
Phone: (804) 786-3591

Robie Ingram, Senior Staff Attorney  
Email: ringram@dls.virginia.gov  
Phone: (804) 786-3591

**Joint Subcommittee to Study  
Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment  
(Senate Joint Resolution 73 (2010))**

**Draft Work Plan for the Joint Subcommittee to Study Strategies and Models for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment for the 2010 Interim:**

<u>Meeting #1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of 2009 activities - highlight major ideas or issues explored, review recommendations developed by the work groups during 2009, identify items for further evaluation</li> <li>• Discussion of work plan for remainder of 2010 interim, including issues, topics, and items that the joint subcommittee would like to pursue</li> <li>• Discussion of the role of the work groups during the 2010 interim</li> </ul>
<u>Meeting #2</u> (September)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation - Impact of federal health care reform on substance abuse treatment and prevention services</li> <li>• Presentation - Potential impact of changes in federal law and policy on services in Virginia</li> <li>• Receive information about options for expanding role of recovery and peer-support organizations</li> <li>• Receive information developed by the work groups and other sources on topics identified by the joint subcommittee for further evaluation; identify items to pursue further</li> </ul>
<u>Meeting #3</u> (October)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receive information developed by the work groups and other sources on topics identified by the joint subcommittee for further evaluation during meeting #2</li> <li>• Receive report from the Bureau of Insurance of the State Corporation Commission related to substance abuse insurance parity</li> <li>• Receive report from the Department of Health Professions related to use of the Prescription Monitoring Program</li> <li>• Prepare initial list of possible recommendations; provide direction to work groups regarding information required for finalization of recommendations; provide direction to staff regarding preparation of drafts of any legislation that may be required</li> </ul>
<u>Meeting #4</u> (November)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review recommendations and draft legislation, where appropriate; finalize recommendations for 2011 Session of the General Assembly</li> <li>• Discuss preparation of final report of the joint subcommittee, to be submitted in the spring of 2011; provide direction to staff regarding preparation of the final report</li> </ul>