

## **Summary of Legislative Priorities for 2001 General Assembly Session January 8, 2000**

### **I. On-Going Commission Initiatives**

- Sponsor a budget amendment to expand Personal Assistance Services (PAS) Program (\$250,000) and provide 1 MEL to DRS to address documented need for 53 persons on the waiting list. Patron: Delegate Van Landingham
- Sponsor a budget amendment to expand Consumer Services Fund (\$400,000) to address documented needs for persons on the waiting list. Patron: Delegate Van Landingham
- Sponsor a budget amendment and provide 2 MEL to expand Long Term Rehabilitation Case Management Program (\$150,000) to address documented need for persons on the waiting list in Tidewater and Northern Virginia areas, in that priority order. Patrons: Senators Miller and Puller
- Sponsor a budget amendment to DRS (\$1,950,000) to strengthen and expand the network of Centers for Independent Living in Virginia. Patron: Delegate Bloxom
- Sponsor a budget amendment to the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities to provide research consultation and staff support to the Disability Commission (1 MEL and \$75,000). Patron: Delegate Van Landingham
- Sponsor a budget amendment to fund Capital Square Access Study Recommendations (\$500,000) to fund priority area 1 and restrooms in GAB and the Capital Building. Patron: Delegate Bloxom
- Endorse the budget amendment to expand day services and maintain the Mill House Clubhouse in Richmond for persons with Traumatic Brain Injury.
- Endorse the budget amendment to expand employment services for persons with disabilities through LTESS budget request (\$2,600,000).

### **II. Employment**

- Letter for Chairman's signature requesting the Virginia Employment Commission to identify strategies for ensuring the accessibility of One Stop Centers and establishing partnerships with the disability community and Health & Human Resources Agencies, to be reported to the Disability Commission prior to the 2002 General Assembly Session.
- Letter for Chairman's signature to the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services and the Commissioner of Department of Rehabilitative Services requesting a completion of a feasibility study, with collaboration from key stakeholders, for Medicaid Buy-in implementation in Virginia, to be reported to the Disability Commission prior to the 2002 General Assembly Session. The study should include 1) an examination of Personal Assistance Services (PAS) development under the State Plan Option Medicaid program; 2) an analysis of the economic opportunities presented by the Buy-in to address workforce issues for business; and 3) HFCA Infrastructure grant development progress; and 4) state resources needed.

### **III. Transportation**

- Sponsor a budget amendment to provide funding for the Transportation Incentive Fund through the Specialized Transportation Council (\$800,000) to purchase needed, accessible vehicles addressing documented needs in communities throughout the state.
- Patron: Delegate Van Landingham
- Support legislation regarding the Virginia Transit Liability Pool (VTLP) that would allow certain private non-profit transportation providers to join this pool and realize lower costs for vehicle insurance (Patroned by Senators Hall and Stosch).
- Letter for Chairman's signature urging the Secretary of Transportation to consider advancing the findings of 1999 Transportation and Disability Study within the Biennium Budget planning cycle.

#### **IV. Housing**

- Sponsor a budget amendment to activate and support the Interagency Coordinating Council on Housing for the Disabled (Va. Code Section 2.1-703.1) and provide cross-training on local levels throughout state to bring about disability provider/housing partnerships aimed at maximizing use of HUD Section 8 vouchers for people with disabilities in need of housing (\$150,000). Patron: Delegate Van Landingham
- Letter for the Chairman's signature to state agencies encouraging greater interagency collaboration to make better use of available housing resources and informing them of the budget efforts this year.

#### **V. Other**

- Co-sponsor legislation to strengthen the composition of the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities to increase the number of individuals with disabilities and family members from 50% to 60% of membership as required by federal Developmental Disabilities Act of 2000. Patron: Delegate Bloxom
- Adopted by Disability Commission at its meeting on January 4, 2001