

Joint Subcommittee's Role in New HHR Oversight Unit at JLARC

Proposed Process:

- 1) Staff shall survey the members of the Joint Subcommittee with a list of potential topics to prioritize for consideration by JLARC. The survey shall be open ended to solicit member ideas.
- 2) Feedback from the members shall be used to determine the prioritization of topics.
- 3) The final list of topics in priority order shall be approved by the Joint Subcommittee and shared with JLARC.
- 4) At JLARC's September meeting the topic selection subcommittee will be provided a list of suggested topics from the Joint Subcommittee for HHR Oversight.

2018 Appropriation Act Language:

H.1. The General Assembly hereby designates the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to review and evaluate the agencies and programs under the Secretary of Health and Human Resources (HHR) on a continuing basis.

2. Review and evaluation work shall be directed by JLARC in consultation with the Joint Committee for Health and Human Resources Oversight.

3. Review and evaluation shall include, but not be limited to (i) studies of agencies or programs; (ii) targeted analysis of spending trends and other issues warranting examination; and (iii) assessment of the soundness and accuracy of population and spending forecasts, including the process, assumptions, methodology, and results.

4. For the purpose of carrying out its duties and notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, JLARC shall have the legal authority to access the information, records, facilities, and employees of all agencies within the HHR secretariat.

5. The following records shall be excluded from the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.), and shall not be disclosed by JLARC:

(a) records provided by a public body as defined in § 2.2-3701, Code of Virginia, to JLARC in connection with its evaluation of agencies and programs within the HHR secretariat, where the records would not be subject to disclosure by the public body providing the records. The public body providing the records to JLARC shall identify the specific portion of the records to be protected and the applicable provision of the Freedom of Information Act or other provision of law that excludes the record or portions thereof from mandatory disclosure.

(b) confidential proprietary records provided by private entities pursuant to a promise of confidentiality from JLARC, used by JLARC in connection with its evaluation of agencies and programs within the HHR secretariat where, if such records are made public, the financial interest of the private entity would be adversely affected.

6. The Chairman of JLARC may appoint a permanent subcommittee to provide guidance and direction for ongoing review and evaluation of agencies and programs within the HHR secretariat, subject to the full Commission's supervision and such guidelines as the Commission itself may provide.

7. JLARC may employ on a consulting basis such professional or technical experts as may be reasonably necessary for the Commission to fulfill its responsibilities under this authority.

8. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate as requested by JLARC in the performance of its duties under this authority.