

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
Performance Evaluation and Research Division

Building 1, Room W-314
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0610
(304) 347-4890
(304) 347-4939 FAX



John Sylvia
Director

October 3, 2005

The Honorable Edwin J. Bowman
State Senate
129 West Circle Drive
Weirton, West Virginia 26062

The Honorable J.D. Beane
House of Delegates
Building 1, Room E-213
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0470

Dear Chairs:

In 2001, The Legislature created the Care Home Advisory Board under West Virginia Code §16-5T-1(a) to:

...gather information concerning personal care homes and residential board and care homes, and make its findings and recommendations to the governor and the Legislature.

In August 2003, the Performance Evaluation and Research Division presented a Preliminary Performance Review on the Care Home Advisory Board to the Joint Committee on Government Operations. The report identified that the Board accomplished its objective when it made its findings and recommendations known to the Governor and the Legislature through a report submitted on December 5, 2002. However, PERD noted that the Board had one remaining issue to complete prior to its scheduled sunset expiration date of December 31, 2003. The task was to determine if including "personal care homes" and "residential board and care homes" as Medicaid covered services would offset any state subsidy going for these services and if it would slow the growth of the Medicaid budget deficit.

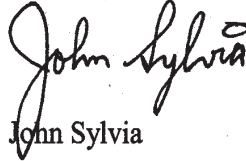
According to information provided by the former Board chairman, the board accomplished its final task. In a letter to former Governor Wise dated December 1, 2003, the Chairman stated:

Joint Committee on Government and Finance

...the Bureau of Medical Services has demonstrated to us that an increase in the state share for additional Medicaid services is not affordable in the coming year given the current deficit and the likely increase in incidental expenditures associated with adding a service that would increase the number of Medicaid recipients.

The letter, which is enclosed, addressed four recommendations made by the Board and the action that was taken on each recommendation. Given that the Care Home Advisory Board met its mandates, it should have ceased to exist on December 31, 2003 as scheduled. In addition, the Board, believing it had accomplished its objective, has not met since 2003. Therefore, the Legislative Auditor recommends that the Care Home Advisory Board be removed from the sunset schedule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Sylvia". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Sylvia

Enclosure