2026 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB30 (Introduced)

Item 321

A. Area Agencies on Aging are encouraged to continue seeking funds from a variety of sources which include cost-sharing in programs where not prohibited by funding sources; private sector voluntary contributions from older persons receiving services; families of individuals receiving services; and churches, service groups and other organizations. Such appropriations shall not be included in the appropriations used to match Older Americans Act funding. Revenue generated as a result of these projects shall be retained by the participating Area Agencies on Aging for use in meeting critical care needs of older Virginians. These revenues shall supplement, not supplant, general fund resources.

B. It is the intent of the General Assembly that all Area Agencies on Aging use any new general fund revenue, with the exception of funding provided for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program, to implement sliding fees for services. However, priority for services should be given to applicants in the greatest need, regardless of ability to pay. Revenue from fees shall be retained by the Area Agencies on Aging for use in meeting critical care needs of older Virginians. These revenues shall supplement, not supplant, general fund resources.

C. It is the intent of the General Assembly that Older Americans Act funds and general fund moneys be targeted to services which can assist the elderly to function independently for as long as possible. Area Agencies on Aging may use general fund moneys for consumer-directed services.

D. At the request of the Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, the Director, Department of Planning and Budget may transfer state general fund appropriations for services provided by Area Agencies on Aging between service categories. Each individual Area Agency on Aging may transfer up to the maximum amount of federal funds and matching state general fund amounts allowed by federal law between service categories. Further, each Area Agency on Aging may transfer undesignated state general fund amounts among service categories. Under no circumstances shall any funds be transferred from direct services to administration. State general fund appropriations shall be available to the Area Agencies on Aging beginning July 1 of each year of the biennium, in compliance with the department's General Fund Cash Management Policy.