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HOUSE BILL NO. 855

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Health and Human Services

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate Hernandez)

A BILL to direct the State Board of Social Services to allow applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program year round.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. The State Board of Social Services (the Board) shall promulgate regulations to allow applications for the Home Energy Assistance Program to be submitted during all months of the year, provided adequate funding is available for such year-round application period. The Board's initial adoption of regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act shall be exempt from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia), except that the Board shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the regulations prior to adoption.

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