

Senator Houck Elected Joint Commission On Health Care Chairman
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senator R. Edward "Edd" Houck was elected Chairman of the Joint Commission On Health Care (JCHC) at its recent meeting.

During his 25 years in the State Senate, Senator Houck has built a solid background and reputation working with fellow legislators and state agencies on health care issues impacting the Commonwealth. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Senate Education and Health Committee and of the Senate Finance Committee's Health and Human Resources Subcommittee. Outside of his legislative duties, he serves as Director of Community and Corporate Programs at Mary Washington Hospital. The JCHC Chairmanship will be an extension of the duties fulfilled with these positions.

"I firmly believe my legislative assignments coupled with my professional experiences, will enable me to lead the Joint Commission in a progressive manner. I look forward to working my colleagues in the House and in the Senate as well as commission staff to improve the Commonwealth's health care system," Houck said.

Established in 1992, the Joint Commission on Health Care is a standing commission of the Virginia General Assembly whose purpose "is to study, report, and make recommendations on all areas of health care provision, regulation, insurance, liability, licensing, and delivery of services." As of July 1, 2003, JCHC incorporated behavioral health care issues within its study of health care.

In its 16 year history, JCHC has provided the General Assembly with reliable, impartial, and timely information to use in addressing health, behavioral health, and long-term care needs. Its work has led to the creation of the Virginia Health Care Foundation and the establishment of state scholarships for physicians, dentists, and nurses.