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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 123

Offered January 21, 2000

Memorializing the Virginia Department of Transportation to complete the U.S. Route 58 Improvement Program as expeditiously as possible.

Patrons—Day, Armstrong, Clement, Cranwell, Dudley, Keister, Kilgore and Tate; Senator: Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Transportation

WHEREAS, U. S. Route 58 runs along Virginia's southern boundary from Cumberland Gap to Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the potential of U. S. Route 58 as a vital transportation link between the agricultural and manufacturing centers in Southside Virginia and population centers in Eastern Virginia on one side and those of the American Midwest beyond the mountains on the other side is a major factor in every conceivable scenario for the economic development of Southside Virginia; and

WHEREAS, improvements of U. S. Route 58 are not only vital for Southside's industrial, agricultural, and commercial expansion, they are no less crucial to the stabilization of the regional economic activity at even its present level and to the retention of its existing jobs, particularly in the manufacturing sector; and

WHEREAS, nowhere is Virginia is the economic vitality and even viability of an entire region so dependent upon a single program of improvements to a single transportation corridor; now , therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Department of Transportation be memorialized to complete the U. S. Route 58 Improvement Program as expeditiously as possible; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner and the Virginia Secretary of Transportation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.