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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 254

Offered January 24, 2000

Requesting the Virginia Housing Study Commission, with assistance from the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, to study strategies for increasing home ownership opportunities among minorities and new citizens of the United States.

Patrons-Diamonstein, Almand, Cantor, Drake, Hall, Scott, Stump, Williams and Woodrum; Senator: Mims

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, homeownership is widely regarded as a key to strong and vital communities; and

WHEREAS, homeownership is also widely regarded as a key to generating personal wealth and ongoing self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, one of the stated goals of the Commonwealth is to increase home ownership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, while homeownership rates overall in the Commonwealth have steadily increased in recent years; and

WHEREAS, homeownership rates among minorities have not increased proportionate to overall homeownership rates, accordingly to a recently released federal study; and

WHEREAS, national secondary mortgage market leaders, such as Fannie Mae, have recently reported that minorities and new citizens of the United States are key potential new homeowners; now, therefore,

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Housing Study Commission, with assistance from the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, as needed, be requested to study strategies for increasing home ownership opportunities among minorities and new citizens of the United States.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Housing Study Commission for this study, upon request.

The Housing Study Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 2001 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.