

006313432

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 133
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules
on February 14, 2000)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Hanger)

Directing the Commission on the Future of Virginia's Environment to examine strategies to reduce the amount of solid waste being deposited into landfills in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, the amount of waste deposited in Virginia's landfills during the calendar year 1998 reached 12.8 million tons; and

WHEREAS, of the 12.8 million tons of waste disposed of in Virginia in 1998, 82 percent was deposited into landfills; and

WHEREAS, the environmental impact of a solid waste disposal system so heavily based upon the use of landfills is significant and there is considerable evidence that the current level of landfill use is not sustainable without severe adverse consequences; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's rapid growth and the increase of imported waste will only continue to exacerbate the current problem; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the General Assembly that, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, 25 percent of the solid waste generated in Virginia be recycled;

WHEREAS, there are a number of waste management strategies such as recycling and waste-to-energy systems that are underemployed in the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Commission on the Future of Virginia's Environment be directed to examine strategies to reduce the amount of waste being deposited into landfills in the Commonwealth.

In conducting its study, the Commission shall specifically examine ways in which the Commonwealth can encourage the use of alternative waste management practices in order to meet the goal of a 25 percent reduction in the amount of waste deposited in Virginia landfills by the year 2005. The Commission shall make recommendations and provide options for regulatory or legislative actions that will meet the reduction goal.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Commission, upon request.

The Commission on the Future of Virginia's Environment 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.

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

SI133SI