

2000 SESSION

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 175
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the House Committee on Rules
on March 6, 2000)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Hawkins)

Recognizing Virginia Naturally 2000 as the Commonwealth's official environmental education initiative goals.

WHEREAS, all of Virginia's citizens have a responsibility to act as good stewards of Virginia's precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's environment will soon be in the hands of its youngest citizens, who will be tomorrow's leaders; and

WHEREAS, we recognize our responsibility as members of the General Assembly to ensure that Virginia's citizens and future leaders possess scientific and economic knowledge about the environment and environmental problems; and

WHEREAS, environmental education can aid youth and adults in making informed decisions and analyzing issues through critical thinking for the sake of Virginia's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the partners of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement recognized the importance of environmental education efforts in signing Executive Council Directive Number 98 - 1 to initiate the "Chesapeake Bay Program Education Initiative"; and

WHEREAS, Governor James S. Gilmore has launched a comprehensive environmental education initiative for the entire Commonwealth to be spearheaded by the Secretary of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, this initiative is designed to coordinate environmental education efforts among Virginia's state agencies, federal agencies, local governments, private industry and business, nonprofit environmental organizations, public and private school systems, and others; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That Virginia Naturally 2000 be recognized as the Commonwealth's official environmental education initiative goals; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Natural Resources so that he may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

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