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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 201

Offered January 24, 2000

Memorializing Congress to approve the Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act.

Patron—Saslaw

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the greater Washington area is the nation's most congested region, second only to Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, a study commissioned by the Greater Washington Board of Trade indicates that commuting time will increase by an average of 30 minutes daily, costing every household an additional \$2,500 per year by the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to significant transportation growth over the next decade, spending is expected to fall short of the transportation needs by more than \$500 million to \$1 billion annually over and above existing revenue streams; and

WHEREAS, on August 3, 1999, Senator Charles Robb, Congressman James Moran, and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton introduced the Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act (Bills S. 1477 and H.R. 2688); and

WHEREAS, this Act provides the structure and incentive for greater Washington jurisdictions to develop their own regional transportation priorities and to raise supplemental funds to address the transportation needs of northern Virginia and the greater Washington area, without creating any new bureaucracy or taxing authority; and

WHEREAS, approval of the Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act will help advance the interests of Virginia citizens by reducing traffic congestion, promoting economic development, and improving the quality of life in the metropolitan Washington region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Congress of the United States be memorialized speedily to approve the Metropolitan Washington Regional Transportation Act (Bills S.1477 and H.R. 2688); and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.