

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 2001 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 527

Continuing the Interstate Route 73 Communications Committee.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2001

Agreed to by the Senate, February 21, 2001

WHEREAS, through its passage of House Joint Resolution No. 153, the 1998 Session of the General Assembly created the Interstate Route 73 Communications Committee to provide an institutional and organizational link between the citizens and businesses of south-central Virginia and their legislative representatives in the General Assembly and the Department of Transportation and to receive and disseminate communication between the Department and those most directly and greatly concerned with the speedy completion and success of the Interstate Route 73 project; and

WHEREAS, during its 1999 Session, the General Assembly extended the mandate of the Committee for two additional years through the passage of House Joint Resolution No. 658; and

WHEREAS, in the course of its work, the Committee determined that, although there is considerable and broad-based public support for the Interstate Route 73 project in communities throughout the region to be served by the highway, no firm decision has yet been made as to whether or where the highway will be built; and

WHEREAS, if findings of preliminary studies lead to decisions by the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the Federal Highway Administration to determine a route for the highway and acquire needed rights-of-way, actual construction on the project is still years away and its completion may lie more than a decade in the future; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the Interstate Route 73 project to regional economic development and the long-term nature of the project underscore the need to continue the work of the Interstate Route 73 Communications Committee; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Interstate Route 73 Communications Committee be continued. The Committee shall consist of 14 members, which shall include 8 legislative and 6 nonlegislative members to be appointed as follows: 4 members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; 4 members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; and 6 citizen members of whom 3 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, upon the nomination of the Commissioner of Transportation, and 3 of whom shall be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, upon the nomination of the Commissioner of Transportation. All legislative and citizen members shall be residents of the districts and localities potentially most affected by the Interstate Route 73 project.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$2,600.

The Interstate Route 73 Communications Committee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations by October 20, 2002, to the Governor and the 2003 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

ENROLLED

HJ527ER