

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 2001 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 577

Supporting the bid of the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area for the 2012 Olympic Summer Games.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 2, 2001

Agreed to by the Senate, February 14, 2001

WHEREAS, the Washington-Baltimore 2012 Coalition has been formed to bring the 2012 Olympic Summer Games to Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, the coalition's efforts are supported by leading business groups in the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, Virginia would play a major role in the 2012 Games, primarily through the use of the athletic facilities at George Mason University; and

WHEREAS, surveys have shown overwhelming public support, in excess of 80 percent, for the 2012 Olympic Summer Games in the Washington-Baltimore area; and

WHEREAS, nearly 70 percent of area residents indicated that they would attend the Summer Olympics; 86 percent believe the Olympics would bring substantial economic benefits to the region; and nearly 80 percent have attended a sporting event, musical performance, or cultural event over the past two years; and

WHEREAS, a recent study by economists at the University of Baltimore and George Mason University shows that the Games would create more than \$5.3 billion in new economic activity, including \$865 million in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the study further shows that 69,800 full-time, year-round jobs would be created during the preparation for and the actual running of the Games, that 12,805 of these jobs would be in Virginia, and that these jobs would generate \$2.12 billion in wages and salaries; and

WHEREAS, the study also indicates that \$131 million in new sales and personal income taxes would be generated for Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, aside from the economic impact, the effect of hosting the world's largest and most prestigious sporting event would showcase Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia and have a lasting, positive impact on the area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly express its vigorous support for the bid of the Washington-Baltimore 2012 Coalition for the 2012 Olympic Summer Games; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the chairman of the Washington-Baltimore 2012 Coalition so that he may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia.

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