

004134480

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 211

Offered January 24, 2000

Establishing a select committee to study the feasibility of establishing the Virginia Legislative Internship Program.

Patron—Miller, Y.B.

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, more and more students are finding out that applied learning, such as internships, gives them the necessary practical experience and provides a contact base that is invaluable in the job search process; and

WHEREAS, for employers, these programs allow them to get a jump-start on training a talented young workforce; and

WHEREAS, government interns can engage in a variety of substantive endeavors, from preparing legislative and legal research, to organizing agenda and activities of meetings, to writing policy papers and press releases, to designing webpages; and

WHEREAS, internships encourage students to participate in challenges and rewards of public interest work while providing the public interest community with the dedication, energy, and idealism that interns bring to their work; and

WHEREAS, while some legislative agencies in Virginia have developed agency-specific internship programs, there is no legislative branch-coordinated and funded internship program; and

WHEREAS, a legislative sponsored internship program will help prepare students for effective participation in civic affairs, careers in government and the teaching of government, and graduate study in political science, law, and other fields related to the public sector; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That a select committee be established to study the feasibility of establishing the Virginia Legislative Internship Program. The select committee shall be composed of 11 members as follows: two members of the Joint Rules Committee, to be appointed by the Chairman, one of whom shall be a member of the Senate and one of whom shall be a member of the House of Delegates; three members of the Senate, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; four members of the House of Delegates, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules and the Chairman of the House Committee on Rules, who shall serve ex officio with full voting privileges.

In conducting its study, the select committee shall examine the organization and cost of the internship program, including, but not limited to, the selection process, participation requirements, performance evaluation, and potential sources of funding.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$13,750.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the select committee, upon request.

The select committee 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.

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.

INTRODUCED

SJ211