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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 437

Senate Amendments in [] — January 31, 2001

Directing the Housing Study Commission to study affordable housing in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator Watkins

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, there is increasing evidence that housing affordability remains a serious problem in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, there is an absence of any annual statistics on affordable housing in Virginia affordable housing statistics on an annual basis, despite the fact that such statistics could be generated; and

[WHEREAS, the absence of annual ; and]

WHEREAS, the increasing [insistence interests] by localities in planning and zoning decisions that housing "pay its own way", puts affordable housing at a disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, affordable housing includes all types of homes, including site-built, manufactured and modular, and provides good value to homeowners; and

WHEREAS, affordable housing is needed to house young homebuyers and retirees, and to support industry and business that localities seek; and

WHEREAS, building codes at the state and federal level have developed largely uniform standards of quality and safety for all types of homes; and

WHEREAS, Virginia needs to take advantage of new home building technologies such as modular housing components to make affordable housing more feasible; and

WHEREAS, completed, comparably priced site-built, modular and manufactured homes are indistinguishable from one another due to advances in design technology; and

WHEREAS, manufactured housing inspection and construction systems have demonstrated that cost can be reduced while housing value is enhanced; and

WHEREAS, site builders recognize that their current code inspection systems are inefficient and cause unnecessary home cost increases; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Housing Study Commission be directed to study the impact of new home building technologies and current building code inspection systems on the availability of affordable housing.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Housing Study Commission for this study, upon request.

The Housing Study Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations [by October 20, 2001,] to the Governor and the 2002 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

ENGROSSED

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