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HOUSE BILL NO. 945

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 14, 2004

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-223.2:9, relating to independent audits of the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Patrons—Oder, Albo, Frederick and Rapp

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-223.2:9 as follows:

§ 33.1-223.2:9. Independent audits of Department required.

Beginning on July 1, 2004, and at least once every two years thereafter, the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner shall accept contract proposals from private companies to conduct a thorough, comprehensive, and independent audit of the Department of Transportation. Every such audit shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, interviews with Department staff; focus group sessions; review of appropriate documentary material, including, but not necessarily limited to, budgets, performance reports, and other management information; and discussion of preliminary suggestions and recommendations with Department staff.

The objectives and scope of this audit shall be as follows:

- 1. A review of the Department's organizational structure;*
- 2. An assessment of the Department's process and functional areas, including, but not necessarily limited to, maintenance, procurement, internal auditing, information technology, quality management services, project planning and development, construction management, and grants administration;*
- 3. Reviews of the functions and activities performed within the Department's division to identify the strengths, weaknesses, revenue enhancements, and obstacles to mission accomplishment; and*
- 4. Evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of the Department's functions and activities, including recommendations for improvement.*

All costs of the conduct of any audit carried out under this section shall be borne by the private company performing the audit.

INTRODUCED

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