## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 152**

Directing the Virginia Housing Study Commission, with the assistance of the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Community Development, to study certain housing-related issues. Report.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 17, 2004 Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 2004

WHEREAS, the Virginia Housing Study Commission (the Commission) is mandated to "study the ways and means best designed to utilize existing resources and provide the Commonwealth's growing population with adequate housing"; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has long been recognized as a forum for new ideas in housing and community development and as a focal point for developing consensus for such ideas in the form of landmark governmental and nongovernmental initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Commission works closely with the public and private sectors, nonprofit organizations, and private citizens to develop workable and sustainable responses to housing and community development challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Commission in 2003 was directed under Senate Joint Resolution No. 357 to study the report of the Housing Needs Assessment project completed in 2002 by the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Community Development and to address issues raised in the report of such project, and to develop a statewide housing policy for the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 the Commission began its review of such report and laid the groundwork for the development of a statewide housing policy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Housing Study Commission, with the assistance of the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Community Development, be directed to study certain housing-related issues. The Virginia Housing Study Commission shall continue to deliberate on the issues raised in the Housing Needs Assessment, which study shall include a focus on community revitalization opportunities; housing opportunities for rural areas; housing opportunities for low-income persons, persons with special needs, minorities and new immigrants; homeownership trends, barriers, and opportunities; and the need for local understanding and accommodation of the housing needs of the entire spectrum of residents of the Commonwealth.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Virginia Housing Study Commission by the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Department of Housing and Community Development. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Virginia Housing Study Commission for this study, upon request.

The Virginia Housing Study Commission shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2004, and the Executive Director of the Virginia Housing Study Commission shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2005 Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether the Virginia Housing Study Commission intends to submit a document of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly. The executive summary and the documents shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.