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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 103

Offered January 11, 2006

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*Establishing a joint subcommittee to study the research potential at colleges and universities in the Commonwealth. Report.*

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 Patron—Nutter
 

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 Referred to Committee on Rules
 

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WHEREAS, the Commonwealth boasts the eleventh largest higher education system in the United States, with 342,000 students enrolled in public institutions; and

WHEREAS, included within this system are the Commonwealth's 15 public four-year comprehensive and doctoral research institutions of higher education, one two-year college, and the Virginia Community College system; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Science Foundation, in 2003, Virginia's public universities conducted more than \$700 million in research and development; and

WHEREAS, bringing new technologies from the research laboratory to the marketplace requires academia and industry to work together in new and innovative ways; and

WHEREAS, investment in strategic areas will allow the Commonwealth to more fully benefit from its investments in higher education and economic development; and

WHEREAS, new technologies can spawn new industries leading to new jobs, new products, and new markets, thereby multiplying their impact on the economy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study the research potential at colleges and universities in the Commonwealth. The joint subcommittee shall have a total membership of 15 members that shall consist of 11 legislative members, two nonlegislative citizen members, and two ex officio members. Members shall be appointed as follows: seven members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates in accordance with the principles of proportional representation contained in the Rules of the House of Delegates; four members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; one nonlegislative citizen member who shall be from the research and development industry to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and one nonlegislative citizen member who shall be conducting research in a public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules. The Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System or their designees shall serve ex officio with voting privileges. Nonlegislative citizen members of the joint subcommittee shall be citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the chairman of the joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk, nonlegislative citizen members shall only be reimbursed for travel originating and ending within the Commonwealth of Virginia for the purpose of attending meetings. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required. The joint subcommittee shall elect a chairman and vice chairman from among its membership, who shall be members of the General Assembly.

In conducting its study, the joint subcommittee shall identify the following: (i) actions to increase the research potential at the Commonwealth's colleges and universities; (ii) comparisons between the Commonwealth and other states regarding research productivity of its higher education system and state funding of university-based research and development; (iii) policies to encourage enhanced university-industry collaborations; (iv) mechanisms for stimulating college and university research that have proved effective or ineffective in other states; (v) strategies through which the Commonwealth can make use of the research discoveries already developed by its public institutions of higher education; (vi) policies establishing priority areas for research funding and identifying qualified individuals in those prioritized funding areas; and (vii) an administrative model that can effectively oversee a program that supports academic research in the Commonwealth and that can ensure that funds allocated to research initiatives are used in accordance with the purposes for which they were appropriated.

Administrative staff support shall be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the House of Delegates. Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the joint subcommittee shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. Technical assistance shall be provided by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Joint Commission on Technology and Science. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee for this study, upon request.

INTRODUCED

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59 The joint subcommittee shall be limited to four meetings for the 2006 interim, and the direct costs of  
60 this study shall not exceed \$11,800 without approval as set out in this resolution. Approval for  
61 unbudgeted nonmember-related expenses shall require the written authorization of the chairman of the  
62 joint subcommittee and the respective Clerk. If a companion joint resolution of the other chamber is  
63 agreed to, written authorization of both Clerks shall be required.

64 No recommendation of the joint subcommittee shall be adopted if a majority of the House members  
65 or a majority of the Senate members appointed to the joint subcommittee (i) vote against the  
66 recommendation and (ii) vote for the recommendation to fail notwithstanding the majority vote of the  
67 joint subcommittee.

68 The joint subcommittee shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2006, and the chairman shall  
69 submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and  
70 recommendations no later than the first day of the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The  
71 executive summary shall state whether the joint subcommittee intends to submit to the General  
72 Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or  
73 Senate document. The executive summary and the report shall be submitted as provided in the  
74 procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents  
75 and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

76 Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint  
77 Rules Committee. The Committee may approve or disapprove expenditures for this study, extend or  
78 delay the period for the conduct of the study, or authorize additional meetings during the 2006 interim.  
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