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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Offered January 11, 2006 Prefiled December 9, 2005

Requesting the Virginia Department of Transportation to study improved highway connections between the Progress Park development in Wythe County and Interstate Routes 77 and 81. Report.

Patron—Reynolds

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the success of the Progress Park industrial park in Wythe County is an important element in plans for the County's economic development; and

WHEREAS, major product distribution centers considering locating in Progress Park have expressed concerns over the need for improved highway connections between the Park and major highway corridors, principally Interstate Routes 77 and 81; and

WHEREAS, absent improvements to these highway connections and more ready ingress to and egress from Interstate Routes 77 and 81, Progress Park is likely to fall short of its full potential as a major employment center and contributor to the economic development of the County and the quality of life of its citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) be requested to study improved highway connections between the Progress Park development in Wythe County and Interstate Routes 77 and 81.

In conducting its study, the Department shall, in cooperation with Wythe County and major employers within the County, seek to identify strategies, technologies, and actions that will most effectively, expeditiously, and cost-effectively improve highway connection between Progress Park in Wythe County and Interstate Routes 77 and Route 81.

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

VDOT shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2006, and shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.