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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 577

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled December 11, 2006

Providing for a Joint Assembly and establishing a schedule for the conduct of business coming before the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly of Virginia.

Patrons—Griffith, Callahan, Hall, Howell, W.J., Putney and Wardrup; Senators: Chichester, Colgan, Norment, Quayle, Saslaw, Stolle and Stosch

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly shall meet in joint session at Jamestown Settlement on Wednesday, January 10, 2007, at such time as specified by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, to receive the Governor of Virginia, and such address as he may desire to make, and that the rules for the government of the House of Delegates and the Senate, when convened in joint session for such purpose, shall be as follows:

Rule I. At the hour fixed for the meeting of the Joint Assembly, the Senators, accompanied by the President and the Clerk of the Senate, shall proceed to the Hall of the House of Delegates, located in the Robins Foundation Theatre, and shall be received by the Delegates standing. Appropriate seats shall be assigned to the Senators by the Sergeant at Arms of the House. The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall assign an appropriate seat for the President of the Senate.

Rule II. The Speaker of the House of Delegates shall be President of the Joint Assembly. In case it shall be necessary for the Speaker to vacate the Chair, the President of the Senate shall serve as the presiding officer.

Rule III. The Clerk of the House of Delegates shall be Clerk of the Joint Assembly and shall be assisted by the Clerk of the Senate. The Clerk of the Joint Assembly shall enter the proceedings of the Joint Assembly in the Journal of the House and shall certify a copy of the same to the Clerk of the Senate, who shall enter the same in the Journal of the Senate.

Rule IV. The Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeepers of the House shall act as such for the Joint Assembly.

Rule V. The Rules of the House of Delegates, as far as applicable, shall be the rules of the Joint Assembly.

Rule VI. In calling the roll of the Joint Assembly, the names of the Senators shall be called in alphabetical order, then the names of the Delegates in like order, except that the name of the Speaker of the House shall be called last.

Rule VII. If, when the Joint Assembly meets, it shall be ascertained that a majority of each house is not present, the Joint Assembly may take measures to secure the attendance of absentees, or adjourn to a succeeding day, as a majority of those present may determine.

Rule VIII. When the Joint Assembly adjourns, the Senators, accompanied by the President and the Clerk of the Senate, shall return to their chamber, located in the Elmon and Pamela Gray Presentation Hall, and the business of the House shall be continued in the same order as at the time of the entrance of the Senators; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That notwithstanding any other provision of this resolution and in accordance with the practices of each house, a request to be added or removed as a co-patron must be received prior to the first vote on the passage of a bill or agreement to a joint resolution or, if the bill or joint resolution is not reported from committee, then prior to the last action on such legislation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That any joint resolution creating or continuing a study shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members voting in each house and any resolution creating or continuing a study shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members voting in the respective house; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That any member offering for introduction a bill or joint resolution not submitted to the Division of Legislative Services for drafting is encouraged to submit an electronic version no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day the legislation is introduced; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That for purposes of the procedural deadlines established herein for the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly:

"Adult/juvenile correctional impact bill" shall mean, in accordance with § 30-19.1:4, any bill that would result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities or periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice. The first-day introduction deadline shall not apply to any adult/juvenile correctional impact bill whose only impact is to create a misdemeanor or increase or decrease a penalty to a misdemeanor.

"Appropriation bill" shall mean any bill, except the general appropriation bill (Budget Bill), that

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58 authorizes or directs the expenditure of state funds.

59 "Budget Bill" shall mean the general appropriation bill introduced in each house that authorizes the  
60 biennial expenditure of public revenues for the period from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2008.

61 "Debt bill" shall mean any bill that authorizes the issuance of debt.

62 "Legislative day" shall mean the period of time that begins with the call to order by the presiding  
63 officer and ends when declared adjourned by the presiding officer. Unless another time is specified, any  
64 deadline established in this resolution shall expire at the end of the legislative day.

65 "Local fiscal impact bill" shall mean, in accordance with §§ 30-19.03:1 and 30-19.03:1.1, any bill  
66 that mandates a county, city, or town to incur an additional net expenditure or a net reduction of  
67 revenues. The first-day introduction deadline shall not apply to any local fiscal impact bill whose only  
68 impact is to create a misdemeanor or increase or decrease a penalty to a misdemeanor.

69 "Prefiled legislation" shall mean any bill or joint resolution requested from the Division of  
70 Legislative Services no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 11, 2006, and prefiled no later than  
71 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 10, 2007, and any bill or joint resolution not requested from the  
72 Division of Legislative Services and prefiled no later than 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 10, 2007.

73 "Revenue bill" shall mean any bill, except the Budget Bill and debt bills, that increases or decreases  
74 the total revenues available for appropriation, including any sales tax exemption bill.

75 "Unanimous consent" shall mean the affirmation of all the members present in the house of origin.  
76 Any legislation intended to be offered for introduction with unanimous consent or with the written  
77 request of the Governor shall not require the consent of the house in order for the member to request  
78 the Division of Legislative Services to draft such legislation. The Division of Legislative Services shall  
79 return such legislation after the original introduction deadline.

80 "Virginia Retirement System bill" shall mean, in accordance with § 30-19.1:7, any bill that amends,  
81 repeals, or modifies any provision of any retirement system established in Title 51.1 of the Code of  
82 Virginia.

83 Each adult/juvenile correctional impact, appropriation, budget, debt, local fiscal impact, revenue, and  
84 Virginia Retirement System bill shall have its appropriate designation stamped upon its cover. Each  
85 adult/juvenile correctional impact or local fiscal impact bill whose only fiscal impact is to create a  
86 misdemeanor or increase or decrease a penalty to a misdemeanor shall state this opinion in the summary  
87 appearing on the bill's cover; and, be it

88 RESOLVED FINALLY, That the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly shall be governed  
89 by the following procedural rules, which establish introduction limits and time limitations for elections  
90 and for all legislation prefiled and introduced for or continued to the 2007 Regular Session except:

91 House and Senate resolutions;

92 bills and joint resolutions affecting the rules of procedure or the schedule of business of the General  
93 Assembly, either of its houses, or any of its committees;

94 bills and joint resolutions introduced with unanimous consent and, when applicable, introduced with  
95 unanimous consent to exceed the introduction limits established in Rule 1;

96 joint resolutions confirming appointments subject to the confirmation of the General Assembly;

97 joint commending and memorial resolutions, except for the time limitations established in Rules 15  
98 and 17;

99 bills and joint resolutions regarding elections held by the General Assembly during the 2007 Regular  
100 Session; or

101 bills and joint resolutions requested in writing by the Governor, if the member offering such  
102 legislation has not exceeded the introduction limits established in Rule 1.

103 Rule 1. After the deadline for filing prefiled legislation established by House Joint Resolution No. 70  
104 (2006), no member of the House of Delegates shall introduce more than a combined total of five bills  
105 and joint resolutions and no member of the Senate shall introduce more than a combined total of eight  
106 bills and joint resolutions.

107 Rule 2. Neither house of the General Assembly shall receive from any committee any bill or joint  
108 resolution that was continued on the agenda of such committee and acted upon later than midnight,  
109 Friday, December 8, 2006. For purposes of this rule, a motion to refer a measure to another committee  
110 shall be treated as an action by a committee.

111 Rule 3. No retail sales and use tax exemption bill as defined in § 30-19.1:3 or any bill extending or  
112 delaying the effective date of a sales and use tax exemption shall be offered in either house after the  
113 adjournment of that house on Wednesday, January 10, 2007.

114 Rule 4. No bill or joint resolution creating or continuing a study shall be offered in either house after  
115 the adjournment of that house on Wednesday, January 10, 2007.

116 Rule 5. Except for bills and resolutions required to be requested earlier, requests for the drafting,  
117 redrafting, or correction of any bill or joint resolution shall be submitted to and received by the Division  
118 of Legislative Services no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 12, 2007.

119 Rule 6. Except for bills required to be filed earlier, no bill or joint resolution shall be offered in

120 either house after 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 19, 2007.

121 Rule 7. No later than Friday, January 19, 2007, the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement  
122 System shall submit, in accordance with § 30-19.1:7, impact statements for all Virginia Retirement  
123 System bills filed by the first day of session. For any Virginia Retirement System bill filed later than the  
124 first day of session, the Board of Trustees shall use due diligence in preparing the impact statement in  
125 time for review by the standing committees.

126 Rule 8. No later than Monday, January 22, 2007, each house shall begin its consideration of any  
127 election to fill a seat (i) due to the expiration of a term of a justice or judge, (ii) currently held by a  
128 justice or judge serving under a pro tempore appointment of the Governor pursuant to Section 7 of  
129 Article VI of the Constitution of Virginia, and (iii) currently held by a judge serving under a pro  
130 tempore appointment of a circuit court pursuant to § 16.1-69.9:2 of the Code of Virginia. In the event  
131 that the houses cannot agree on any such election before Tuesday, January 23, 2007, such election shall  
132 become the subject of a special and continuing joint order in each house at the time such house  
133 completes its morning hour, and such special and continuing joint order shall have precedence over all  
134 other business of either house, until such time as both houses reach agreement on such election or agree  
135 to hold it at another specific time. The Rules of each house, as far as applicable, shall be the rules  
136 governing any such election.

137 Rule 9. The committees responsible for the consideration of adult/juvenile correctional impact,  
138 appropriation, debt, revenue, and Virginia Retirement System bills in the houses of introduction shall  
139 complete their work on such bills no later than midnight, Thursday, February 1, 2007.

140 Rule 10. The committees responsible for the consideration of the Budget Bill in the houses of  
141 introduction shall complete their work on such bill no later than midnight, Sunday, February 4, 2007,  
142 and any amendments proposed by such committees shall be made available to their respective houses no  
143 later than noon, Tuesday, February 6, 2007.

144 Rule 11. Except for the Budget Bill, beginning Wednesday, February 7, 2007, the House of  
145 Delegates shall consider only Senate bills, Senate joint resolutions, House bills with Senate amendments,  
146 and House joint resolutions with Senate amendments; the Senate shall consider only House bills, House  
147 joint resolutions, Senate bills with House amendments, and Senate joint resolutions with House  
148 amendments; each house may consider conference reports and other privileged matters to the end that  
149 the work of each house may be disposed of by the other.

150 Rule 12. The houses of introduction shall complete their consideration of the Budget Bill, except for  
151 conference reports and other privileged matters relating thereto, no later than Thursday, February 8,  
152 2007.

153 Rule 13. The committees responsible for consideration of revenue bills of the other house shall  
154 complete their consideration of such bills no later than midnight, Tuesday, February 13, 2007.

155 Rule 14. No later than midnight, Wednesday, February 14, 2007, each house shall complete  
156 consideration of the Budget Bill and all revenue bills of the other house, except for conference reports  
157 and other privileged matters relating thereto, and the appointing authority shall appoint the conferees to  
158 such bills.

159 Rule 15. Requests for the drafting, redrafting, or correction of any joint commending or memorial  
160 resolution shall be submitted to and received by the Division of Legislative Services no later than 5:00  
161 p.m., Friday, February 16, 2007.

162 Rule 16. The first conference on any revenue bills shall complete its deliberations no later than  
163 midnight, Saturday, February 17, 2007, and the report of such conference shall be made available to all  
164 members of the General Assembly no later than noon, Monday, February 19, 2007.

165 Rule 17. No joint commending or memorial resolution shall be offered in either house after 5:00  
166 p.m., Monday, February 19, 2007.

167 Rule 18. Beginning Tuesday, February 20, 2007, neither house shall receive from any committee any  
168 bill or joint resolution acted on by any committee later than midnight, Monday, February 19, 2007.

169 Rule 19. No later than Tuesday, February 20, 2007, each house shall begin consideration of joint  
170 resolutions to fill any existing or pending vacancy on (i) the Supreme Court of Virginia, (ii) the Court  
171 of Appeals of Virginia, (iii) any circuit or district court of the Commonwealth, (iv) the State Corporation  
172 Commission, (v) the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission, and (vi) the Judicial Inquiry and  
173 Review Commission. In the event that the houses cannot agree on the filling of any such vacancy before  
174 Wednesday, February 21, 2007, such vacancy shall become the subject of a special and continuing joint  
175 order in each house at the time such house completes its morning hour, and such special and continuing  
176 joint order shall have precedence over all other business of either house, until such time as both houses  
177 reach agreement or either house votes to suspend or discharge the order. The Rules of each house, as far  
178 as applicable, shall be the rules governing the filling of any such vacancy.

179 Rule 20. The first conference on the Budget Bill shall complete its deliberations no later than  
180 midnight, Tuesday, February 20, 2007, and the report of such conference shall be made available to all

181 members of the General Assembly no later than noon, Thursday, February 22, 2007. No engrossment of  
182 the Budget Bill shall be required in either house, and any conference on the Budget Bill shall consider,  
183 as the basis of its deliberations, the Budget Bill as recommended by the Governor and introduced in the  
184 House and the amendments thereto proposed by each house.

185 Rule 21. Except for joint resolutions affecting the rules of procedure or the schedule of business of  
186 the General Assembly, beginning Friday, February 23, 2007, the House shall consider only Senate joint  
187 resolutions and House joint resolutions with Senate amendments; the Senate shall consider only House  
188 joint resolutions and Senate joint resolutions with House amendments; and each house may consider  
189 conference reports or joint resolutions and other privileged matters relating thereto, to the end that the  
190 work of each house may be disposed of by the other.

191 Rule 22. This session of the General Assembly shall be extended beyond the thirty-day period  
192 provided in Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia and shall adjourn sine die no later  
193 than Saturday, February 24, 2007.

194 Rule 23. Pursuant to Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia, the General Assembly  
195 shall reconvene Wednesday, April 4, 2007, for the purpose of considering bills which may have been  
196 returned by the Governor with recommendations for their amendment and bills and items of  
197 appropriation bills, including the general appropriation act, which may have been returned by the  
198 Governor with his objections.

199 Rule 24. The conduct of the business of any subcommittee of any House committee, any joint  
200 subcommittee of House and Senate committees, and any interim study commission created pursuant to a  
201 House measure shall be governed by the Rules of the House of Delegates; the conduct of the business  
202 of any subcommittee of any Senate committee, any joint subcommittee of Senate and House committees,  
203 and any interim study commission created pursuant to a Senate measure shall be governed by the Rules  
204 of the Senate. If a House measure and a Senate measure create the same study, the conduct of business  
205 of the study shall be governed by the rules of the house of the chairman of the study, or in the case of  
206 co-chairmen, the rules of the house as agreed upon by the co-chairmen.

207 Rule 25. Any staff member assigned to work for, and support the efforts of, any committee of the  
208 House or Senate, any subcommittee of any such committee, any joint subcommittee of House and  
209 Senate committees, or any interim study commission shall work under the direction of the chairman of  
210 such committee, subcommittee, joint subcommittee, or interim study commission.