

2008 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 133

Offered January 24, 2008

Requesting the Department of Health to study long-term options for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste. Report.

Patron—McEachin

Unanimous consent to introduce

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, as of June 30, 2008, the disposal facility in Barnwell, South Carolina, will no longer accept certain classes of low-level radioactive waste from Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Barnwell facility is currently the only facility accepting this waste for disposal; and

WHEREAS, due to environmental and health concerns, disposal of this low-level radioactive waste is preferable to long-term storage; and

WHEREAS, Virginia has less than a year to find alternative methods of dealing with this waste; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Department of Health be requested to study long-term options for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste.

In conducting its study, the Department shall, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, investigate alternative methods of disposal or storage of Class B and Class C low-level radioactive waste, taking into consideration both industry needs and public health and safety concerns.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Department by the Department of Environmental Quality. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department for this study, upon request.

The Department of Health shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2008, 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 2009 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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