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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 676

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 13, 2009

Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to conduct a performance evaluation of the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission in its efforts to meet its strategic plan and goals.

Patron—Armstrong

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission (TICR) was created in 1999 as an independent body granted the authority to determine the appropriate recipients of moneys in the Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Fund and cause distribution of such moneys to (i) provide payments to tobacco farmers as compensation for the adverse economic effects resulting from loss of investment in specialized tobacco equipment and barns and lost tobacco production opportunities associated with a decline in quota and (ii) revitalize tobacco dependent communities; and

WHEREAS, the TICR has provided 89 grants through its Tobacco Region Opportunity Fund from 2005 to 2008, 37 of those in amounts of \$100,000 or less; and

WHEREAS, the TICR has provided 285 grants for site-related economic development programs, 93 of those in amounts of \$100,000 or less; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) has not evaluated the performance of the TICR since its creation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, that JLARC be directed to conduct a review of the effectiveness of the economic revitalization grants of the TICR.

In conducting its study, JLARC shall (i) evaluate the TICR economic revitalization strategy; and (ii) provide recommendations as to the TICR's outcome metrics and accountability measures.

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

JLARC shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2009, and the Director 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 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether JLARC intends to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor 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 and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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