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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 52

Offered January 11, 2012 Prefiled January 10, 2012

Requesting the Commonwealth Transportation Board to make high capacity transit a priority for funding by the Commonwealth.

Patron—Ebbin

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the provision of good transportation systems is consistently seen by Virginians as one of the Commonwealth's greatest unmet needs; and

WHEREAS, revenue appropriated by the Commonwealth for transportation is no longer growing; and WHEREAS, Virginia has some of the most congested roads in the nation, particularly in the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads areas; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the Commonwealth use its limited transportation funds to address transportation problems in the most efficient way possible; and

WHEREAS, in congested areas like Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads, one of the most cost-effective means of transporting people from one place to another is high capacity transit; and

WHEREAS, some localities wish to make greater use of high capacity transit, which uses streetcars, heavy rail, and bus rapid transit systems to move large numbers of people from one place to another; and

WHEREAS the Commonwealth should assist localities in providing high capacity transit, thereby lessening the need for the Commonwealth to build new roads; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Commonwealth Transportation Board be requested to make high capacity transit a priority for funding by the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation, the Commissioner of Highways, and the members of the Commonwealth Transportation Board in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.