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HOUSE BILL NO. 1183

Offered January 16, 2014

A *BILL to amend and reenact §§ 30-282 through 30-286 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Joint Commission on Transportation Accountability and the Virginia Transportation Solutions Working Group.*

Patron—Comstock

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 30-282 through 30-286 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 30-282. Virginia Transportation Solutions Working Group established; composition; terms; compensation and expenses; quorum; voting on recommendations.

There is hereby established in the legislative branch of state government the ~~Joint Commission on Transportation Accountability~~ *Virginia Transportation Solutions Working Group*. The ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall consist of six members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates, of whom at least three shall be members of the House Committee on Transportation; four members of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules of whom at least two shall be members of the Senate Committee on Transportation; and the Auditor of Public Accounts, who shall serve as a nonvoting ex officio member. Members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office as members of the House of Delegates and the Senate. Members may be reappointed for successive terms.

Members of the ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall receive such compensation as provided in § 30-19.12 and shall be reimbursed for all their reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the ~~Commission Working Group~~. Funding for the costs of compensation and expenses of the members shall be provided from existing appropriations to the ~~Commission Working Group~~.

The ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall annually elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among its membership. Meetings of the ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall be held upon the call of the chairman or whenever the majority of the members so request. A majority of the members appointed to the ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall constitute a quorum.

§ 30-283. Staff.

Administrative staff support shall be provided by the Office of the Clerk of the house of the General Assembly of which the Chairman of the ~~Commission Working Group~~ is a member. Legal, research, policy analysis, and other services as requested by the ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall be provided by the Division of Legislative Services. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission upon request.

§ 30-284. Powers and duties of Working Group.

The ~~Commission Working Group~~ shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To make performance reviews of operations of state agencies with transportation responsibilities to ascertain that sums appropriated have been or are being expended for the purposes for which they were made and to evaluate the effectiveness of programs in accomplishing legislative intent;

2. To study, on a continuing basis, the operations, practices, and duties of state agencies with transportation responsibilities as they relate to efficiency in the use of space, personnel, equipment, and facilities;

3. To retain such consultants and advisers as the ~~Commission Working Group~~ deems necessary to evaluate financial and project management of state agencies with transportation responsibilities; and

4. To make such special studies of and reports on the operations and functions of state agencies with transportation responsibilities as it deems appropriate and as may be requested by the General Assembly; and

5. To advise the Commonwealth Transportation Board on matters pertaining to transportation policy, transportation innovation and technologies, and traffic congestion relief strategies.

§ 30-285. State agencies to furnish information and assistance.

All agencies of the Commonwealth, their staff, and employees shall provide the ~~Commission Working Group~~ with necessary information for the performance of its duties and afford the ~~Commission's Working Group's~~ staff ample opportunity to observe agency operations.

§ 30-286. Payment of expenses of Working Group.

The salaries, per diems, and other expenses necessary to the function of the ~~Commission Working~~

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59 *Group* shall be payable from funds appropriated to the ~~Commission~~ *Working Group*.