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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 86

Offered January 10, 2014

*Encouraging the development of the Advanced Composites Initiative.*

Patrons—Locke and Miller

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's historic Langley Research Center on the Virginia Peninsula has been selected as the lead center for federal research on the Advanced Composites Initiative; and

WHEREAS, work on advanced composites, engineered materials with superior properties over conventional metallic alloys, will build on the success of prior programs led by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center, including projects that paved the way for the aircraft industry's adoption of composites for the wings and fuselage of transport aircraft, such as the ultra-efficient Boeing 787 Dreamliner; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Advanced Composites Initiative is to develop computational-based design methods that will allow entrepreneurs to utilize the superior properties of composites for a wide variety of new product designs; and

WHEREAS, a growing economy is vital to the Commonwealth, and the Advanced Composites Initiative provides an essential technological underpinning to the growing commercial space transportation industry and the space launch capability at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Space Port at Wallops Flight Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Advanced Composites Initiative project has the potential to be a major magnet for additional technologies and businesses looking to locate in close proximity to the NASA Langley Research Center; and

WHEREAS, an influx of new businesses will benefit the Hampton Roads region and the Eastern Shore by commercializing the technologies arising from the Virginia Peninsula's regional universities and federal laboratories, such as the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Advanced Composites Initiative will bring another positive engine to further diversify the economy of the Virginia Peninsula; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the development of the Advanced Composites Initiative be encouraged; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Langley Research Center requesting that the center further disseminate copies of this resolution to its respective constituents so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

INTRODUCED

S186