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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 619

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 13, 2015

Requesting the Department of Rail and Public Transportation to study the efficacy and desirability of extending the Metrorail in Virginia. Report.

Patrons—Lingamfelter, Anderson, Torian, Futrell, Marshall, R.G. and Surovell; Senators: Barker, Colgan and Puller

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Metrorail reduces traffic congestion in the Northern Virginia region; and

WHEREAS, an extension of the Metrorail may have an effect on the current and future service provided by the Virginia Railway Express; and

WHEREAS, bus transit may be a feasible alternative to an expansion of either the Virginia Railway Express or the Metrorail; and

WHEREAS, the projected ridership and potential costs of expansion in Northern Virginia are unknown; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Rail and Public Transportation be requested to study the efficacy and desirability of extending the Metrorail in Virginia. The Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall study a potential extension of the Metrorail from Springfield, Virginia, south along the I-95 corridor in Prince William County.

In conducting its study, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall compare (i) the potential effect of an extension of the Metrorail to Prince William County on reducing congestion in the region with the potential effect of an extension of the Virginia Railway Express on reducing congestion in the region, (ii) the projected ridership of an extension of the Metrorail with that of an extension of the Virginia Railway Express, and (iii) the potential costs of either such extension.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and the Department of Transportation. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation for this study, upon request.

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2015, 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 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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