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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 41

Offered January 8, 2020

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Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to study teacher salaries and benefits in the Commonwealth, including the regional competitiveness of such salaries and benefits. Report.

Patrons—Scott, Askew, Ayala, Delaney, Jenkins and Samirah

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution of Virginia, the General Assembly is committed to ensuring that an educational program of high quality is established and maintained in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, a high-quality teacher workforce is paramount to meeting the educational goals of the General Assembly and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that teacher salaries and benefits in the Commonwealth are competitive, especially on a regional basis, in order to attract and retain the highest quality teacher workforce; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be directed to study teacher salaries and benefits in the Commonwealth, including the regional competitiveness of such salaries and benefits.

In conducting its study, the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall analyze the relationship between (i) salaries and benefits provided to teachers in the Commonwealth, states adjoining the Commonwealth, and the District of Columbia and (ii) the recruitment and retention of teachers in each such state and the District of Columbia.

Technical assistance shall be provided to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission by all local school divisions and the Department of Education. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission for this study, upon request.

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall complete its meetings by November 30, 2020, and the chairman 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 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission 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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