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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 163

Offered January 25, 1994

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study driver's licenses.

Patrons—Purkey and Wagner; Senator: Holland, C.A.

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, although the driver's license was originally intended to serve only as documentary evidence that the licensee had been granted the privilege of operating a motor vehicle, it has come to be the most commonly used form of personal identification in American today; and

WHEREAS, because driver's licenses have become so commonly accepted as personal identification, they not only allow their holders to operate motor vehicles, but also to purchase tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and firearms, cash checks, and generally prove their identities; and

WHEREAS, in the wrong hands, a driver's license can become a very important instrument in carrying out a variety of unlawful activities from fraudulently obtaining employment to illegally qualifying for welfare benefits or other government services; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable that all appropriate means be considered by which access to driver's licenses may be better monitored and controlled; and

WHEREAS, to further this goal, it may be desirable to deny Virginia driver's licenses to persons who are not citizens of the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study the desirability and feasibility of denying Virginia driver's licenses to persons who are not citizens of the United States.

The joint subcommittee shall be composed of five members appointed as follows: three members from the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House, and two members from the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$ 3,750.

The joint subcommittee shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1995 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

Implementation of this resolution is subject to subsequent approval and certification by the Joint Rules Committee. The Committee may withhold expenditures or delay the period for the conduct of the study.

INTRODUCED

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