

1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 447

Offered January 17, 1995

Continuing the Science and Technology Task Force.

Patrons—Ball, Bennett, Diamonstein, Guest, Plum and Scott; Senators: Andrews, Bell and Calhoun

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the coordination of science, technology, higher education, work force training, and industrial development strategies is essential to the promotion of economic growth in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that "science and technology should be an integral part of the overall economic development strategy of the Commonwealth," the 1993 Session of the General Assembly established a 23-member science and technology task force to review the recommendations of previous governmental task forces and to "coordinate the development of a statewide strategic plan" for science and technology; and

WHEREAS, to delve more deeply into specific issues, the Task Force established subcommittees to examine education and the preparation of human resources in Virginia for the industrial and government sectors; infrastructure, including telecommunications, transportation, and research parks, centers, and laboratories; finance and business, tax, and regulatory issues; and competitive position, including research and development deployment and business assistance efforts; and

WHEREAS, the role of science and technology in economic development continues to be of critical concern to the Commonwealth, as evidenced by the establishment of the Virginia Technology Council to assist in the development and implementation of a statewide technology blueprint and to "strengthen the technology business sector and position Virginia as a leader in this industry so vital to economic growth" as well as by the recommendations of "Opportunity Virginia," a report by the Secretary of Commerce and Trade; and

WHEREAS, continuing review of recent and ongoing initiatives and the work of organizations addressing science and technology, such as the Virginia Technology Council, the Governor's Telework/Telecommuting Advisory Task Force (HJR 68, 1994), "Opportunity Virginia," the State Library Board, and the Department of Information Technology (HJR 76, 1994), will promote increased coordination among these efforts and will help ensure the implementation of those science and technology initiatives essential to the future growth and prosperity of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Task Force on Science and Technology be continued. The Task Force shall consider, among other things, the recommendations of various organizations focusing on science and technology issues, including, but not limited to, the Governor's Telework/Telecommuting Advisory Task Force (HJR 68, 1994), "Opportunity Virginia," the State Library Board, the Department of Information Technology (HJR 76, 1994), the Center for Innovative Technology, the strategic planning process for the economic development of Virginia; and other related issues as it deems appropriate.

The current membership of the task force shall continue to serve as appointed pursuant to HJR 390 (1993); any vacancies shall be filled in the manner consistent with the original resolution.

The Center for Innovative Technology, the Department of Economic Development, and the State Council of Higher Education shall provide such technical assistance as the Task Force deems appropriate. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Task Force, upon request.

The Task Force shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1996 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for processing legislative documents.

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