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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 326

Offered January 23, 1995

Establishing a joint subcommittee to study the coordination and privatization of paratransit service in Virginia.

Patrons—Waddell, Houck, Howell and Marsh

Referred to the Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth currently uses federal Transit Administration and state fuel tax funds to support publicly operated transit and paratransit services through capital and operating subsidies; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth provides additional capital assistance to private nonprofit and public agencies through federal "Section 16" funds; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth also funds transportation through the Office of Medical Assistance Services for nonemergency and emergency Medicaid transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Americans With Disabilities Act has mandated that complementary paratransit be provided to many Virginians with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, it is highly desirable to use existing private, for-profit transportation providers — such as taxicab companies and other specialized paratransit companies — in the provision of these services; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Commonwealth to coordinate these transportation services to the extent feasible in order to provide cost-effective and efficient transportation services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That a joint subcommittee be hereby established to study:

1. The full allocated costs of human service transportation provided by private nonprofit agencies;

2. The benefits of using existing capital provided by private transportation companies;

3. The coordination of transportation services between public, private, nonprofit, and for-profit transportation providers;

4. Medicaid transportation, including the licensing of providers, the rates charged for reimbursements, and the coordination of trips; and

5. The impact of funding such as "Section 16" on existing private for-profit transportation providers.

The joint subcommittee shall be composed of five members appointed as follows: three members of the House of Delegates appointed by the Speaker, and two members of 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 1996 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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