

1995 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 338

Directing the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission to conduct an analysis of the need and feasibility of modernizing land title records in the Commonwealth.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 1995

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 1995

WHEREAS, the clerks of court are required in ever increasing numbers to record and index deeds and other instruments in real estate records maintained by the clerks' offices; and

WHEREAS, the current system used in the clerks' offices for recording and indexing instruments can result in substantial delays for title examiners, home buyers, lending institutions, and others who are involved in real estate closings and may preclude compliance with the Wet Settlement Act and other rules governing the recordation of documents and the disbursements of settlement proceeds by closing agents; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is already pursuing the implementation of an automated geographic information system for describing and identifying parcels of land for use by governmental agencies throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission be directed to conduct an analysis of the need and feasibility of modernizing land title records in the Commonwealth. The commission shall study the need, feasibility, costs, and advisability of the implementation of an automated and computerized system in the Commonwealth for recording, indexing, and making available to the public and governmental agencies the deeds and other real estate documents submitted to the clerks' offices and the coordination of such system with the Virginia geographic information system. As part of its study, the Commission shall examine what impact, if any, the system has on the implementation of Virginia's Freedom of Information Act.

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1997 Session of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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