

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 383

Establishing a joint subcommittee to review the need for and fiscal impact of various methods of providing the cost-effective delivery of basic governmental services in the Greater Richmond area.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 1995

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

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1088 (1994) calls for a Richmond Regional Government for the City of Richmond and the Counties of Chesterfield and Henrico for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, maintaining and operating the water and sewer, waste disposal, and transportation facilities that serve the three jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, a Senate amendment to House Bill No. 1088 proposes that a Richmond Regional Authority be created instead to provide these same services; and

WHEREAS, possible service delivery mechanisms, including a regional government and a regional authority, have not been fully analyzed regarding their ability to provide a more cost-effective delivery of services to businesses, institutions and residents; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions in the Greater Richmond area have not been included in House Bill No. 1088 and may have an interest in such cooperative efforts; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to conduct a detailed study to develop a profile on regional governments, authorities, and other service delivery mechanisms in other states and in Virginia in terms of organizational structure, length of time in place, services regulated, funding, deliverables, obstacles, stakeholders, reason for establishment and the legislation authorizing establishment; and

WHEREAS, deliberations on such issues should be open to participants from local governments, businesses, and the community at large; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That a joint subcommittee be established to study the need for and the fiscal impact of various methods of providing the cost-effective delivery of basic governmental services in the Greater Richmond area.

The joint subcommittee shall be comprised of sixteen members to be appointed as follows: three members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; four members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker; two representatives of local government and two citizen members to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections and two representatives of local government and three citizens members to be appointed by the Speaker. The chairman of the subcommittee shall be a member of the General Assembly as selected by the subcommittee.

The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support for the study. Technical assistance shall be provided by the Commission on Local Government. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the joint subcommittee upon request.

The direct costs shall not exceed \$19,750 of which \$10,000 may be used to obtain consulting services.

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 the processing of 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.

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