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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 110**  
**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
 (Proposed by the Senate Committee on Rules  
 on February 7, 1996)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Walker)

*Establishing a Commission on the Future of Transportation in Virginia.*

WHEREAS, it has long been the goal of the General Assembly that transportation needs be assessed objectively and scientifically, both for the present and into the future; and

WHEREAS, it is a similarly well-established policy that prudent provision be made well in advance for funding these needs; and

WHEREAS, because of their substantial impact, both on transportation system users and on the financial mechanisms established to meet transportation system construction requirements, it is essential to foresee the need for and provide means to finance large-scale transportation construction projects; and

WHEREAS, funding such large-scale construction projects through the existing resource allocation structures and mechanisms could result in funding inequities and systemic inequality; and

WHEREAS, it is thus desirable that needs for such major transportation construction be identified as early as possible and that careful consideration be given to the desirability and feasibility of providing a specialized financing mechanism to ensure adequate revenues to cover the large costs of these major projects; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia regional transportation infrastructure is inadequate and will become increasingly so; and

WHEREAS, the improvement of the region's transportation infrastructure is also dependent upon identifying additional sources of revenue and strengthening jurisdictional and agency cooperation; and

WHEREAS, new funding authorities and mechanisms, such as state and regional bonds, lines of credit, public-private partnerships, and private facilities, have made significant interjurisdictional transportation improvements possible in the last decade and provide models to develop additional nontraditional funding mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, public transportation is another essential element of the transportation system; and

WHEREAS, federal policies contained in the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, and energy policies require an expanded role for public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Congress is planning to eliminate federal operating funds for public transportation over the next several years, placing increased stress on state and local funding for public transportation and resulting in the possibility of increases in passenger fares; and

WHEREAS, reduced funding for public transportation could result in service reductions, which would deprive citizens of basic and essential mobility; and

WHEREAS, local government support for public transportation in Virginia currently is drawn from general funds in local treasuries, placing the responsibility for local support of public transportation primarily upon homeowners and other property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, public transportation should be studied on a regional basis with a view to determine whether regional transportation district commissions should be created in certain areas of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Commission on the Future of Transportation in Virginia be established. The Commission shall consist of 21 members appointed as follows: the President pro tempore of the Senate; two members of the Senate Committee on Finance designated by the Co-Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Finance, two members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and two citizens of the Commonwealth, to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections; the Speaker of the House of Delegates; and two members of the House Committee on Appropriations, two members of the House Committee on Finance, two members of the House Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation and two citizens of the Commonwealth, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates. The Secretary of Transportation, the Commonwealth Transportation Commissioner, the Director of the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, the Director of the Department of Aviation, and the Executive Director of the Virginia Port Authority shall serve as nonvoting members.

The Commission shall (i) review and update the findings of the Commission on Transportation for the Twenty-First Century, and the efforts of the Select Committee Studying the Transportation Trust Fund under Senate Joint Resolution No. 240 of 1993 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 143 of 1994, (ii) identify those major transportation system construction projects whose construction will be required over the next 25 years and the needs of public transportation, (iii) determine the amount of additional

60 transportation revenue to be required over that period to cover these costs, (iv) propose appropriate  
61 means of raising and allocating such needed revenues while determining sources of reliable, dedicated  
62 funding for public transportation, and (v) study existing transportation agencies and authorities and the  
63 need to create new agencies, restructure agencies, and combine existing agencies and authorities for  
64 Virginia, with particular emphasis on creating a regional transportation district commission in the  
65 Roanoke Valley region and a Northern Virginia regional transportation authority.

66 The direct costs of this study shall not exceed \$ 26,000.

67 Staff from the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations and the  
68 Division of Legislative Services shall provide support for the study. The Secretary of Transportation,  
69 with the assistance of agencies under his direction, is requested to provide such technical assistance as  
70 the Commission may require. All agencies of the Commonwealth are requested to provide assistance to  
71 the Commission upon its request.

72 The Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 Session  
73 of the General Assembly as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated  
74 Systems for the processing of legislative documents.

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