

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 1997 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 447

Requesting the Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations to study state and local efforts to protect the aesthetic qualities of the Commonwealth for the purpose of enhancing and enriching the economy and quality of life in Virginia.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 30, 1997

Agreed to by the Senate, February 19, 1997

WHEREAS, the Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations has previously received testimony from local governments, professional associations, and civic groups regarding their concerns and efforts with respect to the protection and preservation of the Commonwealth's extraordinary aesthetic attributes; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's natural beauty, its distinctive architecture, and historic areas are major components of the Commonwealth's aesthetic environment; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's aesthetic attributes are largely responsible for travel-related spending in Virginia, which in 1995 was estimated to exceed \$9.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, the continued economic development of the Commonwealth will be significantly affected by the preservation of its aesthetic qualities; and

WHEREAS, the visual environment confronted by individuals in their daily routines has a profound effect on personal attitudes and productive capacities; and

WHEREAS, public consciousness of the significance of the visual quality of the Commonwealth to our economic future and to the psychological well-being of our residents is indispensable for the preservation of Virginia's aesthetic attributes; and

WHEREAS, the continued protection of the Commonwealth's visual qualities requires the collaboration of state agencies, local government, commercial entities, and the general public; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations be requested to study state and local efforts to protect the aesthetic qualities of the Commonwealth for the purpose of enhancing and enriching the economy and quality of life in Virginia. The Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations shall also recommend the means by which such efforts may be enhanced and extended.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations for this study, upon request.

The Virginia Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations shall complete its work in time to submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the 1998 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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